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EXCURSIONS

IN

THE MEDITERRANEAN.

ALGIERS AND TUNIS.

86197

BY

MAJOR SIR GRENVILLE T. TEMPLE, BART.

navibus atque
Quadrigis petimus bene vivere :

HOR. EP.

IN TWO VOLUMES.

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TO

SIR WILLIAM GELL,

M.A. F.R.S. F.S.A., &c. &c.

IN ADMIRATION OF

HIS TALENTS, AND LEARNING,

THESE PAGES ARE DEDICATED

BY

THE AUTHOR.

Tunis,
March 28, 1833.

PREFACE.

THE interior parts of Barbary are regions so seldom visited by travellers, that I thought some account of them, however slight, might, perhaps, be favourably received. My excursions were much more limited than I had hoped to have made them; for at Algiers I found it impossible to penetrate beyond the line occupied by the French advanced posts, whilst the civil war now raging in the Beylek of Tripoli induced me to abandon, for a time at

least, all idea of visiting its shores. The Tuniseen dominions I have, however, been enabled to visit with ease and comfort, as far at least as my limited time would permit; but as I had undertaken the tour solely for amusement, and never entertained the idea of publishing, till my return to this capital, I did not carry my researches as far, nor investigate subjects with the care and attention, I should otherwise have done.

I had originally intended to have included in my researches a general investigation (but solely for my own amusement) of the ancient and modern geography of this country, and endeavoured, by carefully comparing the two, to have corrected many errors which at present exist both in books and in maps. A variety of circumstances have, however, combined to deprive me of the time requisite for such a task, and I am now only able to transcribe

and condense the crude and ill-arranged contents of my daily journal.

This explanation is necessary to account for the want of order, and carelessness of style, which will but too often be observed in the following pages.

Tunis, March 28th, 1833.

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Ancient names
Modern names
CARTHAGE
Ruins
Bardo
Tunis
Goletta
Marsa
Utica
Carthage
Hamman Lif
Zaghouan
Kairoüan
Nabel
Hammamet
Menarah
Selcem
Sfax
Sousa
El Kantar isl.
Monastir
Mahdeah
Cap Bon
Caput Vada
Sfaxus
Capsa
Gafsa
Tozer
Nefta
Biskra
Constantina
Algiers
Regency of Tunis
Gulf of Gabs
Circinae Ins.
Meninx
Jerba
Tripoli
Jereed
Wateean
Essidhem
Sahara
Regency of Tripoli.

EXCURSIONS

IN

THE MEDITERRANEAN.

CHAPTER I.

Departure from Naples—Coast Scenery—Ponza—Remains—Neapolitan Convicts—Gaeta—Monte Argentario—Gorgona—Leghorn—Florence—Bonaparte Family—View of Genoa—Minorca—Ciudadela—View of the Atlas.

HAVING determined to visit the shores of Barbary, the Sicilian brig Archimede, of one hundred and twenty tons, was chartered for the purpose. The hold being fitted up as cabins, our sea-stock placed on board, and other necessary preparations made, we sailed from Naples on the 12th June, 1832. Our

party consisted of Lady Temple, her sister, (Miss Baring,) Mr. and Mrs. Kerrich, myself, and Mr. Constant, a French artist, whom I had engaged to take views. On the following morning we were abreast of the islands of Vandotena, *Pandataria*, and San Stefano, separated from each other by a channel of nearly a mile in breadth. The former seems to be about two miles long, by one broad, and contains a village. The formation of both these islands is volcanic. Our view embraced a great number of beautiful and interesting objects: Vesuvius, the bold rocky masses of Sant' Angelo, the smiling coast of Sorrento, Capri, Ischia, the

> . . . durumque cubile
> Inarime Jovis imperiis imposta Typhœa,

Procida, Misenum, and the heights of the Camaldoli, were seen in one direction; in the other the mountainous coast appeared stretching from Gaeta to Monte Circello, having behind it the hills of the Roman States; whilst in

front of us rose the islands of Ponza, *Pontia*, Zannone, *Sinonia*, and Palmarola, *Palmaria*. Having attained the latitude of Porto d'Anzo, the wind commenced blowing against us with so much violence, that finding it quite useless to attempt contending against it, we retreated to the pretty harbour of Ponza, which is well sheltered and commodious, capable of containing six frigates, and defended by a mole with batteries. The town is chiefly formed by a long range of buildings, erected by the English when they occupied the island. The church is a pretty little building. We ascended the hill at the southern extremity of the island, and as it is the highest point, enjoyed a very fine view, the island itself lying like a map at our feet. The coast is in many parts high and rocky, and the surface very irregular and broken. Its general form is that of a crescent, about five miles long, by one in breadth, and seems to be well cultivated. The population amounts to two thousand persons, exclusive of two companies of artillery, which constitute its garrison; but as

few houses are visible, (most of the peasants living in artificial caves,) it does not appear to possess more than a fourth part of that number. Many of these caves seem to have been excavated by the ancients. The only other remains of past ages which I observed, were the ruins of a villa, constructed in the *opus certè reticulatum*, with some fragments of fluted pilasters in stucco. Some statues and coins are occasionally discovered, and one of the former is placed on the quay.

Ponza has by some writers been stated to have been the birth-place of Pontius Pilate, and the residence of Nero when exiled by Tiberius. At present it is one of the places where the Neapolitan government send their galley slaves, and persons guilty of political offences. One of these, who had been condemned to twenty-five years' imprisonment, for the part he had taken in the revolution of 1820, brought me a map of the island, which he had himself made, to while away the heavy hours of his captivity. The greater part of these un-

happy people are confined in *le fosse*, or small rooms excavated in the sides of the trenches. The whole of this group of islands, including the rock called *Le Botte*, which at a distance greatly resembles a vessel under sail, is volcanic.

Returning on board, we were alarmed by finding that our youngest boy was very unwell. We immediately sent for the surgeon of the garrison; but not feeling satisfied with doing this only, I ordered the captain to make all sail for Naples. The wind was fresh and quite favourable, and the vessel was rapidly borne along towards our destination; all our efforts were, however, unavailing, for the poor little sufferer expired in our arms off Cape Misenum, just as the sun was rising above the horizon on the 16th. On the following day I saw his remains deposited in the Protestant burial-ground adjoining the church of la Madonna della Fede, outside the Porta Capuana.

Again leaving Naples with a fair wind, we rapidly sailed past Ischia and Vandotena, close

to which we passed, and perceiving some fishing boats plying hard at their occupation, as we thought most fortunately for our breakfast hour, we dispatched our boat after them. Our hopes of breakfasting on the fruits of their labours were, however, deceived, for the alarmed islanders either conceiving us to be pirates, or from fear of *contumacia*, pulled away with all their might for the main, abandoning their nets to their pursuers.

The picturesque little town of Gaeta and the tomb of Munatius Plancus, now called La torre d'Orlando, which crowns the summit of the hill overlooking it, were distinctly visible. Gaeta retains almost exactly its former appellation:

"Tu quoque litoribus nostris, Æneïa nutrix,
Æternam moriens famam, Caieta, dedisti."

Sailing onwards, we passed under Monte Circello, or in the poet's language,—

"Proxima Circææ raduntur litora terræ."

This cape still bears at a distance the ap-

pearance of an island, which in fact it formerly was.

"Ææaque insula Circæ."

We then successively saw Nettuno, *Ceno*, and Capo d'Anzo, *Antium*, the capital of the Volsci; thus commemorated by Horace:—

"O Diva, gratum quæ regis Antium."

The whole of this coast, so interesting to the classical reader, is however too well known to require any very minute description. It is flat, and thickly covered with low or stunted forests. Albano, Velletri, and Genzano, so often and deservedly the object of the tourist's enthusiastic admiration, were all rendered visible by the clearness of the weather, which threw a cheerful and smiling aspect over the whole prospect. On several former voyages, I have also distinguished the gigantic dome of St. Peter's majestically towering over the surrounding plains.

On the 21st we saw on our right the bold headland of Monte Argentario,

"Tenditur in medias mons Argentarius undas,"
Rut. Iter.

the island of Gianuti, formerly called *Artemis* and *Dianium*, and the island of Giglio thus mentioned by the same author —

"Eminus Igilii silvosa cacumina miror."

On our left, far in the distance, we discovered the steep rocky island of Monte Cristo, *Oglasa*. Passing through the channel which separates Elba from the shores of Piombino, we saw to our front, on the following morning, the island of Capraja, famous in former days as the refuge of exiles and eremites.—

"Processu pelagi jam se Capraria tollit,
Squalet lucifugis insula plena viris;"

and in a short time afterwards the island of Gorgona rose upon the horizon.

"Adsurgit ponti medio circumflua Gorgon,
Inter Pisanum Cyrniacumque latus."

This island in still remoter days was known by the name of *Urgos*.

On the morning of the 22d, we at last anchored in the port of Leghorn, where we were, as is always the case, greatly annoyed and delayed by the underlings of the Tuscan authorities. The guardian sent on board by the Sanità office, insisted upon prying into every part of the vessel, and actually looked down into the cabin. I had previously cautioned him not to do so; and now, therefore, told him, if he dared repeat the offence, I should certainly immediately endeavour to ascertain, by bringing the two objects into contact, whether his head or my stick was the harder material. The man on this immediately quitted the vessel, saying, that a person in whose veins flowed the noble blood of Etruria, should not thus be treated, at least with impunity, and the consequence was, that I was thrice summoned to appear before the board of health to answer for my conduct, and to receive a lecture. However, as I did not choose to submit to this impertinent man-

date, we were detained on board for nearly five hours, though I had written to our Consul to explain the affair, and to obtain redress.

I started for Florence on the following morning, and arrived there in time to see the gay festival of San Giovanni; and two days after we reached Bologna, the cleanest and the dullest town in Italy, and perhaps in the whole world. Here we spent some days at the Palazzo Malvezzi. Bologna I found to be, after its late revolutionary movements, comparatively tranquil, for Cardinal Albani had been removed from his command, and replaced by three thousand Austrian troops, both events acting, in their respective ways, as powerful sedatives.

I was also present when the papal bull, excommunicating all the inhabitants of the town, arrived, and nothing could equal the shouts of laughter and merriment which it gave rise to among all classes. Visited all the different collections of splendid pictures, so well known throughout the world: but what interested us

still more, was one room in the Palazzo Bacciocchi, containing the portraits, statues, and busts of all the members of France's imperial dynasty: here were seen collected the lovely Pauline, the talented Caroline, the intrepid Murat, the faithful Eugene, the father of Napoleon, whose head and features have a highly classical cast, and finally the great master spirit himself, round whose lips was seen hovering that habitual scorn which could contemn men and their thoughts.

"'Twas wise to feel, not so
To wear it ever on thy lip and brow,
And spurn the instruments thou wert to use,
Till they were turned unto thine overthrow."

On the 3d July we were again at Leghorn, having had many of our things seized by the Florentine dogana; and on the 5th we sailed, all in high spirits at the prospect of treading, ere the lapse of many days, the redoubted shores of Mauritania and of Numidia; countries whose beauties are, comparatively speaking, but slightly

known, though this observation can hardly perhaps be now applied to Algiers, our first destination, which is daily becoming more familiar to the traveller, and will, no doubt, in a short time, be as hackneyed a subject in sketch-books and albums as Naples or Rome. Our impatience was but ill seconded by the weather, which seemed determined to try our perseverance to the utmost. We were becalmed an entire day off Gorgona, tossed about by contrary winds, at a short distance from Genoa, passed not far from Albengo, *(Albinum Ingaunum,)* and Capo Mele; saw in the distance the coast of Nice and Antibes, and for two whole days remained in sight of the islands of Hyères, *Stachades ins.* consisting of the Isle du Levant, *Hypœa,* Porteros, *Mese,* and Porquerolles, *Prote.* The eternal sameness of our life was one evening broken in upon by the appearance of a large shark, gently skimming the surface of the waters. All noise was immediately hushed, and every eye intently fixed on this interesting object, dreading at the

same time to see it dive down into the abyss and disappear from sight, before the necessary preparations for its capture should have been made. A rope, with a running noose, was speedily arranged, and as the immense creature passed gently alongside of us, little aware of the fate which we flattered ourselves was awaiting him, was thrown by an experienced hand, and in an instant his body was encircled by it, and drawn up actually to the height of the deck, where, just as a triumphant shout had been uttered by all around, the monster, by a sudden, violent, and unexpected effort, loosed himself from his state of bondage, and was lost to us for ever. With disappointed hearts we returned to our cabins, to be again by turns tossed about or becalmed, till at length we came in sight of Minorca, and on the morning of the 14th found ourselves about three miles from Ciudadela, situated on the N. W. point of the island, and thirty miles from Port Mahon, the *Portus Magonis* of antiquity, built by Mago, Hannibal's brother.

Being short of water, we went on shore to obtain some, though without taking pratique—Minorca, *ins. Minor,* is very low, with the exception of some inland heights called Toro, and that part along which we coasted to reach the town, appeared rocky, and bearing some resemblance to Malta.

The town of Ciudadela, *Jamno,* which is the capital of the island, is a fortified place, prettily situated at the end of a long narrow creek, or arm of the sea, and, from the short distance at which we saw it, seemed to contain a great number of churches and other large stone edifices. The surrounding country is partly covered with beautiful caper plants in full bloom, and here and there a small plantation of olives relieved the eye from the surrounding glare---the colour of these trees, instead of the silvery hue of the Italian olive, bearing more resemblance to the dark green of the orange-tree. The inhabitants of the Balearic islands were formerly renowned for their skill in the use of the sling, their daring acts of piracy, and the laxity of their morals.

Minorca was in the possession of the English from 1708 to 1758, in which year it was taken by the French. They again held it from 1763 to 1782, when it fell under the dominion of the Spaniards, and thirdly, from 1798 to 1802, so that for no less than seventy-three years has this island, at different periods, been in our power. Many of the inhabitants still speak English, and calculate in English money. After working at the oars for an hour and a half in a tremendous swell, and with some fear of being swamped, we reached our brig, which was standing off and on at some miles from the coast.

Majorca or Mallorca, *Major*, which appears to be a much more mountainous island than Minorca, and Cabrera, *Capraria*, were long in view, long enough to weary out my patience; but finally, early on the 17th of July, the sight of the splendid chain of the Atlas, magnificently rising in the distance over its two lower and dependent ranges, which intervene between it and the sea, amply repaid us for all the contrarieties we had hitherto experienced.

CHAPTER II.

Cape Bingat—View of Algiers—Landing — Gates and Fortifications—New Buildings—Moorish Architecture —Population—Dey's Palace—French Army—Duke of Rovigo — Hospitals — Troops —Punishments — Naval Force—Portuguese Squadron—French Invasion—Artillery—Treasure—Site of Algiers—Fertility—Colonization—Dey's Villa—Forts—Military Road—Barracks —Antiquities—Bedouins—Arabs—French Anniversary and Ball—Contrasts—Bazaars—Early History of Algiers.

After passing Cape Bingat, which, from the captain having kept a bad reckoning, was the first part of the land we made, we came in sight of the far-famed Algiers, that town which had sent forth such numerous pirates from its port, and which had so long been the terror of the Mediterranean sailor, rising out of the blue waves in the form of a bright and almost white pyramid, and thrown into fine relief by the dark and rich green of the hills which over-

look it. Its appearance is so curious and so exactly resembling a mass of rock, that many of those on board long imagined it to be a steep precipice forming the end of a bold headland, and blaming the charts for not noticing so conspicuous a landmark, were long before they could be persuaded that they actually now beheld that city towards which we had all been looking forward with such high-wrought expectations.

The coast between Capes Bingat and Matifu, or Ras el temendfu as the latter is called in Arabic, is a low sandy beach covered in part with brushwood, with a few scattered rocks standing out here and there in the sea. Ras el temendfu, is the place where Andrea Doria collected the scattered remains of his dispersed fleet in 1541, and where the miserable remnant of that originally brilliant and haughty army, which Charles V. had led in pride against this once powerful place, was forced to re-embark and fly from its Moslem foe.

To the westward of Algiers rose the bold Jebel Boo-Zariah, finishing towards the sea in Ras Akhonater, or Cape Caxine, which with Ras el temendfu, on the east, forms the extremities of the bay, the chord of whose arch is about twelve miles. To the eastward of the town, is seen, crowning a height, Fort Emperor, whilst Algiers itself is surmounted by the Kazbah, or citadel. The neighbourhood of the town is thickly studded with villas, luxuriant gardens, with forts and batteries, and the whole of the picture is bounded by the different ranges of the Atlas. At mid-day we dropped anchor just inside the *darsena*, having passed alongside the formidable batteries on the island, which has given the name to the town (الجزاير the island,) and which, during the reign of the famous Khair-ed-Deen, or Barbarossa, was united to the main by the solid stone causeway which we see at the present day. We lost no time in landing, though the scorching heat of the sun was severely felt, especially as there was scarcely a breath of air to counteract its power :

nevertheless we wandered about the town, and even visited the Kazbah, climbing up to it by the steep and fatiguing acclivity of a narrow street, which reminded me strongly of the "Infidel hill" at Pera.

Algiers, or properly speaking, El-Jezaeer, surnamed also the Victorious, (الجزاير الغازي)* forms a triangle, of which the Kazbah is the apex: it is about one mile and three quarters in circumference, and is surrounded by a crenelated wall and a ditch, five gates giving admittance to it, three from the country and two from the sea; of these latter, the one at the bottom of the great square is called Bab el baher, (باب البحر) or "Sea-gate," and the other opening upon the mole, Bab el mersa (باب المرسي) "gate of the port," but the French have lately christened it Porte de France. Bab el haout,

* As Arabic names are often variously and generally incorrectly spelt in European characters, I have thought that by giving the word in the Arabic characters it will enable the reader to acquire their proper pronunciation.

(باب الحوت) or "Fish-gate,"* opens to the N.W. Bab jedeed (باب جديد) "the new gate," is a little below the Kazbah, whilst Bab hazoon (باب حزن) the "gate of grief," faces the SE. This latter is thus denominated from the sufferings of the criminals who were suspended on the large iron hooks, which are still seen fixed in its walls as well as at the Bab jedeed. With the exception of the principal street which runs from the Bab hazoon to the Bab el haout, all the others are extremely narrow, but even in this two carriages could not everywhere pass abreast. About half way between the two gates the French have lately cleared away an extensive space of ground, which is called Place du Gouvernement, and which is to be faced with public offices and other edifices, built according to European models: the erection of a church and of a theatre has already been ordered. Many

* There are disputes about this: others asserting that it is Bab el wad, باب الواد, "Gate of the Valley," and perhaps this latter denomination is the correct one.

of the Moorish houses are of very large dimensions, and possess in their interior great beauty of architecture. The mosques, mesjids, and zaweeahs, or chapels, are numerous, but exteriorly have no claims whatever to our admiration; what they may be within, I had not the power of ascertaining, as the French government have strictly prohibited Christians from crossing their thresholds; but flat roofs and ugly square towers, like those of our English churches, are but poor substitutes for the swelling bronze domes, and graceful, lofty minarets, which at Stambool and at Kahira, rise in beauty at every step before the admiring eye. The principal mosque was pulled down by the French to make room for the new square, and another in the Rue du Divan was shortly to be consecrated to christian worship. All the houses are numbered, and the streets have received names, the medley of which is curious, for we read, Rue Annibal, Orléans, Sophonisba, du Chat, Belisaire, Trois Couleurs, Barbarossa, Sidney Smith, Numides, la Charte, Lotophages, Etat-Major, &c.

The population of Algiers, which not many years back amounted to one hundred thousand souls, is now reduced to about sixteen thousand, namely, eight thousand Moors, two thousand Arabs, and six thousand five hundred Jews, to which we must add four thousand one hundred and forty-one Frank residents; however, including six hundred and eighty civil employés, soldiers' wives, and travellers, and five hundred and twenty discharged soldiers, the whole number of Christians will amount to five thousand three hundred and forty-one.

Algiers is daily assuming a more European aspect; hats are nearly as often seen as turbans, cigars have replaced the long pipes, and the Moorish bazaars give way to the glazed windows of French shops. Upwards of fifty merchants have established counting-houses, and a considerable number of mechanics and tradesmen, including of course a full proportion of modistes, couturières, and perruquiers, are thickly scattered about. Eleven grand cafés with billiard-tables, four grand hotels, (which are however execrable,) three restaurateurs, one

hundred eating-houses, two *cabinets littéraires*, one circus, a cosmorama, &c. have already been established, and cabriolets and omnibuses were shortly to ply from the Bab hazoon to Mustafa Pasha, and from Bab el haout to the dey's country villa.

The Kazbah is a little town in itself, containing the late Dey's palace, and several other houses, and gardens; the palace has suffered much from the French soldiery, who, on first occupying it, pulled up the pavement, tore down the glazed tile coating of the rooms, and otherwise committed great injury in their eager search after treasure—the marble flooring, the arched galleries, supported by marble pillars of fantastic but graceful forms, which surrounded the open courts, the elegant fountains which scattered coolness around, and the latticed shahnesheens, still however remain to repay the fatigue and trouble of the visitor's ascent. The *corps-de-garde* with the gate, and the sycamores, banana trees, and vines, which surround it, together with the mixture of French uniforms and Moorish costumes, formed al-

together a beautiful little picture; as did also a wine shop, shaded by a vine-covered *pergola*, under which were seated groups of soldiers, playing at cards, drinking, flirting with some *piquantes* French brunettes, or teaching "Trompette" the *chien du régiment*, a variety of tricks.

The ramparts mount several handsome brass guns, but placed on very bad and old carriages. The upper terraces command a beautiful view, on one side of the Wady Koreish, and on the other of the town and the sea board.

The French force* in the town and territory of Algiers amounted to fifteen thousand men, and a national guard of five hundred infantry and thirty cavalry was shortly to be created. Sickness reduces, especially in summer, the number of effective men to a very small amount; so much, indeed, that I afterwards heard that when, in the subsequent September, General

* The grand total of the army in Africa in 1832, including the corps at Waran and Bona, was twenty-five thousand men, and two thousand eight hundred horses. (See Appendix.)

Faudoaz was ordered by the Duke of Rovigo to march out against a large Bedouin force which threatened to attack the town, he could only assemble fifteen hundred men under arms, as between seven and eight thousand were either in hospital, or convalescent and unable to fill their places in the ranks; and those troops which occupied the outposts could not of course be withdrawn, at least to any great amount. It is not, however, from want of care and attention that sickness thins the battalions to so great an extent, for I know that the Duke of Rovigo has done all that man can do to mitigate and counteract the evil; and that among other beneficial orders which he issued, all the advanced posts which border the unhealthy and vast plain of the Metijah were to be relieved every twenty-four hours, and the sentries every hour; and no soldier called upon to do any duty for a fortnight after his discharge from hospital. Besides this, he established six very large and commodious military hospitals, one at each of the following places, Kara-teen, Bab

hazoon, the Salpetrière, the New Fort, or Burj Ez-zoubia, Husseyn Dey, and Mustafa Pasha; these were occupied by three thousand six hundred and thirty-eight sick; and in the course of a month four thousand two hundred and forty-five new cases were admitted; and though during the same period three thousand five hundred and seventy-one were discharged, we cannot, on account of one of the above stated ordinances prohibiting the immediate *mise en activité* of convalescents, deduct this number from the grand total; we must therefore state the whole ineffective number of the French army to have been, at the period I mention, no less than seven thousand eight hundred and eighty-three.

Among the corps which compose the French army of occupation in Africa, I particularly remarked the Zuaves regiment, formed of the followers of Muhammed's religion, but serving under the banner of the cross. This phenomenon, though existing, as we all know, in the vast regions of our Asiatic possessions, I cer-

tainly never expected to have seen repeated by the fanatic tribes of the Mauritanian shores; such, however, was the case, and from all accounts I received, these men were as subordinate and faithful to their new masters as the sons of France themselves. Their costume resembles almost entirely that generally worn by the Algerines, and consists, for the officers, of a blue jacket embroidered with gold lace, according to the patterns of the country; the overalls are of red cloth, made extremely loose, but forming, contrary to the eastern fashion, separate receptacles for each leg, and are, moreover, ornamented along the seams by two stripes of gold lace. The cavalry wear red jackets, and their European boots are armed with spurs. The turban is red, and the sash blue; and in the uniform of the privates red cotton lace is substituted for gold. There is also a corps called *la légion de Paris*, composed originally of the scum and refuse of the population of the French capital, whose irregular and insubordinate conduct soon gained for them, from the

troops of the line the *sobriquet* of *Bedouins de Paris;* it is, however, but justice to add, that before the enemy they have always rivalled in bravery the best and oldest corps of the line. In addition to this is a *Légion Etrangère*, composed of the most heterogeneous materials, collected from all nations.

On the whole, however, I think that much cannot be said in favour of the general orderly conduct of the soldiers comprising the African army, and it needs only to take up any number of the "Moniteur Algérien," to be convinced of the truth of this assertion; for in it the reader is sure to find one, and even sometimes two long columns of its pages filled with the sentences of courts martial, in which, for murder, robbery, desertion, &c. we find a long list of soldiers condemned to suffer death, *travaux forcés*, imprisonment, and a variety of other punishments.

The French have no large force of cavalry in Africa, for it consists solely of two regiments called *Chasseurs d'Afrique*, who are armed like lancers, wearing a corn-flower-blue uniform,

with yellow facings, *garance* overalls, and red shapkas. The lancers bear on their flags the national colours, placed horizontally. This cavalry, though weak in numbers, has fought right well in support of its country on the shores of Africa.

The French government is careful, and most properly so, to maintain a sufficient naval force in the principal port of its new colony. On my arrival I found at anchor one large double-banked frigate, one corvette, three brigs, and two government steam-boats. A corvette, a brig, a schooner, and a xebecq, subsequently arrived during my stay. On the arrival of the schooner La Béarnaise, she was received with a *salut d'honneur*, in consequence of the bravery displayed by her crew on the occasion of the recent capture of Bona. One of the corvettes, l'Eglée, was formerly an Algerine man-of-war, and afforded a clear proof that the Moors know full well how to build a beautiful vessel. I know not correctly what was the actual force of the Algerine navy at the date of the French expe-

dition, but in 1824 it consisted of five frigates, the largest mounting sixty-two guns, and the smallest thirty-six; three corvettes of from twenty-four to eighteen; four brigs of from sixteen to ten guns; five schooners, and thirty-five gun-boats. It also possessed at several periods many gallant and brave officers, but as it is not my intention to write the history of the naval records of this Regency, I shall merely give the sketch of the life of a man whose name is perhaps still remembered by many of our officers. I speak of Hammooda Rais, a native of the wild regions of the Atlas, who entered the navy of his country at the age of seventeen, and greatly distinguishing himself by his talents and intrepidity, was in a few years raised to the command of a frigate. In 1801 he carried, by boarding, a Portuguese frigate, of much superior force to his own, and which had been purposely fitted out and equipped to capture him. In 1810 we find him an admiral, in command of three frigates, cruizing off the rock of Lisbon. The Portuguese, who had then a large force

stationed in the roads of Gibraltar, detached from it one ship of the line and three frigates to intercept him. The Algerine passed by the bay of Gibraltar under easy sail, and when he saw the Portuguese, hove to off Europa Point, in order to offer battle to his enemy. On this, one of the Portuguese ships (commanded by an Englishman) bore down upon him and poured in a broadside, but was immediately recalled by his admiral. After watching each other for some time, the Portuguese squadron again anchored in Gibraltar roads, and the Algerine continued his course, and performed a very successful cruise in the Mediterranean. The Portuguese Admiral was tried, and not only honourably acquitted, but also highly complimented for the bravery he had displayed in *looking* at the foe. During the war between Tunis and Algiers, Hammooda greatly distinguished himself, and in 1811 captured a Tuniseen frigate of thirty-two guns, having on board their admiral. He however assumed no credit to himself for this victory,

as other parts of his squadron were at this time in sight. After having become the terror of the Mediterranean, he in 1815 fell in with the Guerrière, a frigate of the United States, with which nation the Algerines were then at war, and immediately determined to defend his ship in such a manner as to justify the reputation he had acquired. His frigate was taken, but his feelings were spared the mortification of giving up his sword, for he was killed before she surrendered, dying, as he had lived, without ever having struck his flag to an enemy. A daring and successful officer, he was neither cruel nor ungenerous, but on the contrary kind and courteous to his prisoners, and it is probable that had his talents been properly cultivated, and his services engaged by a sovereign who knew how to appreciate them, he would have attained the highest degree of fame, and his name been handed down to the latest posterity in the annals of heroes.

From the accounts given us by many persons, several of whom were residing at Algiers during

the time of the French invasion, it would appear that the Algerines were by no means prepared to resist the attack, as the Dey firmly believed that the object of the French expedition was solely to threaten, and not to act. He also at the same time probably felt a confidence, founded upon the repeated failures of powerful armies and navies, formerly sent to destroy and conquer his country, that even should the attack really take place, he would be enabled, with the means in his power, easily to repel the invading forces. The natives themselves positively assert that treachery prevailed to a great degree throughout both the cabinet and the camp of the Dey, and point out Ibrahim Agha, his own son-in-law, as the head of the party thus affected. The Turks were also said to have been decidedly averse to the war, and the Moors and Kobailes too much disposed to shake off the yoke imposed upon them by these Levantines, to make any great exertions in favour of a cause which they considered not as their own. True or not

as these statements may be, there is not the least doubt that the Algerine powers of resistance were contemptible in every respect, when compared with the numbers, discipline, and gallantry of the invaders; for at no one period of this short and eventful campaign did the Moorish forces exceed sixteen thousand men; and never were more than ten thousand ever collected in position. Many of these were scarcely armed, and cartridges were as rare in the Algerine ranks as they were plentiful in those of the French; for it is a known fact, that when these landed at Sidi Feruj there existed scarcely any in the magazines, and none were made till after the disembarkation had been effected. The field artillery was so trifling, and in such bad order, as to be incapable of rendering any service; and the guns on the coast batteries were not in a much more effective state, as was amply exemplified at the tower of Sidi Feruj, whose few iron guns dated their existence to a remoter age than the reign of Khair-ed-deen, and were completely honey-

combed. These then were the forces and these the means which Husseyn Dey had to oppose against one of the most formidable, well appointed, and gallant expeditions that ever left its ports for foreign and active service; a force consisting (including soldiers and sailors) of sixty-four thousand five hundred men, and provided with all the *matériel* necessary to ensure success. The following copy of Juchereau de St. Denys' statement may, perhaps, not be uninteresting:

	Officers.	Men.	Horses.
General staff, and staff of divisions, artillery, &c.	674	29	820
Cavalry - -	33	501	503
Infantry - -	1,010	29,772	326
Artillery - -	73	2,254	1,307
Engineers - -	38	1,272	133
Train -	26	825	1,330
Ouvriers d'administration	15	813	10
Gend'armes, postes, et trésor	7	165	81
Total	1,876	35,631	4,510

The *matériel* of the artillery consisted of four field batteries, each of four pieces of eight, and two howitzers of twenty-four, with five hundred rounds each; six pieces of mountain artillery of twelve, with two hundred rounds each, and five hundred Congreve rockets. The siege artillery included thirty long brass pieces of twenty-four, twenty of sixteen, twelve of twelve, twelve twelve-inch howitzers, and twelve ten-inch mortars. Each of the guns was provided with one thousand rounds, and the mortars and howitzers with eight hundred. Total number of *bouches à feu*, one hundred and sixteen.

The fleet was composed of eleven ships of the line, twenty-four frigates, fifteen corvettes, twenty-six brigs, eighteen bomb-ships, eight gabarres, two schooners, seven steam-vessels, and one balancette, mounting in the whole twenty-seven thousand sailors. There were, besides, five hundred sail of transports.

The enormous expense incurred by France in fitting out this powerful expedition, was far more than counterbalanced by the fruits reaped

by the success it obtained; for, independently of now possessing, as a colony, a portion of one of the finest countries in the whole world, and which may probably at a future period be entirely subject to her dominion, the treasure found in the Kazbah was very great, having been stated by the French official documents to have amounted to no less 55,684,527 fr., or about 2,227,380*l.*; namely, in gold, silver, and jewels, 48,684,527 fr., wool and other goods 3,000,000; and in the value of bronze artillery sent over to France, 4,000,000. Private accounts, however, assert that the victors found treasure to the surprising amount of 400,000,000 of francs, equal to 16,000,000*l.* Perhaps General Bourmont and the late dynasty of France could afford a little information as to what became of the balance. Never were our soldiers rewarded, even in their campaigns in India, the land of gold, of diamonds, and of pearls, with a prize amounting in value to any thing near what Algiers proved to be.

Nothing can exceed the beauty of the coun-

try round Algiers; and it is astonishing that no well-executed works have as yet appeared to convey an idea of it, though just two years have elapsed since its conquest. It is true that the artist could not at present penetrate into the wild, but beautiful regions of the Atlas, but still there are scenes within a few minutes' walk from the walls, which would amply repay, by their loveliness, the small degree of trouble he might have experienced in coming to these shores from his *attelier* at Paris.

Algiers is built on one of the ranges of the Jebel Boo-Zariah, which, with its dependencies, extends along the coast from near Sidi Feruj to the banks of the Haraj in the opposite direction. The whole of this high ground, which, surrounded inland by the vast low and level plain of the Metijah, may be said to resemble an island, is intersected in all directions by lovely little valleys, and deeply indented ravines of the greatest beauty; the former containing pretty villas and luxuriant gardens, shaded by the foliage of the banana, the orange, the citron,

the magnolia, the pomegranate, the fig, and other fruit or flower-bearing trees, forming in all directions little groves, under which, during the summer heats, the Algerine was wont, whilst smoking his pipe and half lulled to sleep by the sound of the little fountain throwing its waters into a marble basin, to spend uninterrupted hours of calm delight. In the ravines grow the aloe, the Indian fig, the olive, the beach, and a variety of aromatic shrubs and plants. On the side towards the Haraj the land is lower, and deprived, in great part, of the inequality of ground which gives such beauty to the other, but it has the counterbalancing advantage of being more cultivated and inhabited from the superior fertility of its soil. This island of heights is, as I before mentioned, bounded by the broad valley of the Metijah, whose opposite coast is formed by the first or lower range of the Atlas. This vast plain, extending from the Booberak on the east to the Ma-Zafran on the west, may contain a superficies of about three hundred square miles,

and is, according to all accounts, extremely fertile, though in the summer equally unhealthy, so much so, that during this period of the year, at least when I was there, the outposts only occupied a line round the base of the island or heights, and which line might probably include a surface of fifteen hundred square acres. To render this plain less unhealthy, by removing the stagnant waters which give it that character, and at the same time to form a visible and defensible frontier, Marshal Clauzel had formed the project, whilst governor of the colony, to connect by a canal the waters of the Haraj and the Ma-Zafran. This plan will probably, when the return of quiet in Europe shall have given time to France to turn its attention to less momentous affairs, be carried into execution, if at least the government have really at heart the idea of colonising the country; for without a nucleus to branch out from, which is in itself both healthy and protected from assaults and inroads of the enemy, how can it reasonably be imagined that the system will ever flourish and

attain any vigour. Colonisation creeps on, however, at the slowest possible pace, if it can even be said to advance at all. The *Ferme Modèle*, at Haoosh Hassan Pasha, of which we heard so much in the French papers, and which, according to all accounts, was to form '*le noyau d'une vaste colonisation*,' is in itself but a ruined square in the midst of a desert. When the pulsations of the heart are no longer felt, the members have even before that moment ceased to act. The lands which are to be first apportioned out to settlers, and, in fact, the only ones that can at this moment be offered to them with any regard, at least, to their safety from the attacks of the Arabs, are those in the vicinity of Koubah, Kadzen Hajji, Kaeed Aly, and Delhi Ibrahim.*

* A number of ships had lately arrived from Havre with emigrants, but as many of them had died on board from cholera, bad food, and crowded room, they were sent to Marseilles to perform quarantine. A small schooner at anchor, not far from us, had lost twelve out of one hundred and eighteen passengers which embarked in her.

The rides over a country like that, which surrounds Algiers, are necessarily delightful; as examples, I shall mention two, taken in opposite directions: the one with our Consul-General, Mr. St. John, who, during our whole stay was uniformly kind and attentive to us, and with whom, and his family, we spent many pleasant hours at his pretty and beautifully situated villa, on the declivity of the Jebel Boozariah; the other with the charming daughters of the Duke of Rovigo, and with General Faudoaz, brother of the duchess. These will be sufficient to give some slight idea of the country.

Leaving the Bab el Haout, we passed through a road bordered with gardens and little villas, for on quitting the gate, you immediately enter upon the country, Algiers possessing no suburbs, if we except a few caravanserais or fondooks, and some few shops, which may perhaps be said to constitute one, outside the Bab Hazoon. Beyond these is a vast plantation of magnificent aloes, in full flower, a plant or tree which, in Algerine scenery, forms one of its principal

ornaments. On the right was the fort called Sittit Takelilet, and nearer the sea some other batteries.

Some way beyond, and near an olympic circus established by the French, the beautiful and picturesque valley of the Wady Koreish, with several aqueducts spanning its breadth, and the little purling stream flowing through its length, opened upon our eyes; beautiful, indeed, are the scenes which this quiet valley presents during the calm evenings of summer, to the meditative admirer of nature, as he tranquilly pursues its winding course through an atmosphere rendered fragrant by the innumerable flowers which blossom around him.

A little way beyond is the garden of Husseyn Pasha, the late, and probably last, Dey of Algiers. The villa itself is converted into a military hospital; the orange and citron trees are mostly cut down, and the *parterres* are neglected and overrun with weeds. The house is pretty still, with its marble courts, its spirally twisted columns, and fantastic capitals; its latticed shahnesheens, its little windows of rich *à jour*

work, admitting, through coloured glass, a soft and mellowed light. In the garden are three kiosks, one of which we particularly admired. A flight of steps leads to a marble court, surrounded by a colonade, supporting a trelliced cupola, deeply shaded by a luxuriant growth of the passion flower, the jasmine, and the vine; in the center of the court are two pretty fountains throwing water into a large marble basin, and around are a few apartments.

Ascending the heights, we soon after reached the house of Mr. St. John, surrounded by a pretty and well arranged garden, standing just above the English fort, or Burj Kalaat-el-fool, whose batteries are washed by the waves. The view from his terraces is beautiful, and on the whole, it is a delightful residence. Continuing to ascend the steep sides of the Boo-Zariah, we passed on the right of the fort, now called la Vigée, where, during the advance of the French army, from Sidi Feruj, all the consuls, with the exception of Mr. St. John, took refuge with their families and servants. Ma-

jor Lee, consul from the United States, was invested with the command of the garrison. The American colours were hoisted, guards and sentinels, paroles, and countersigns, grand rounds, and ordinary rounds established; military law was proclaimed, courts martial held, and culprits flogged; in short, all the little duties of a regular fortress were duly enforced. La Vigée is four hundred metres above the sea.

Beyond, we arrived at a blockhouse, with ditch and counterscarp, placed on an eminence, commanding an extensive view of the town and forts of Algiers; the plain of the Metijah, the different battle fields, where the blood-red flag of Mauritania and the spotless one of France contended for victory; the Peninsula of Sidi Feruj and the chain of the Atlas, on which could be seen the houses of Belidah. Descending from the blockhouse we arrived at a little farm, belonging to Mr. St. John, through which runs a rill of water abounding with tortoises, and then reached that part of the plain where the Algerine and French armies remained in presence of each other for nine days, as the latter did not wish to

advance till its heavy artillery had been brought up from Sidi Feruj. A large house called the Dey's, or Sidi Ibrahim, was on the site of the French position, and here much skirmishing took place between the hostile parties, the wild and bernoosed Moslems even charging with gallant daring against the formidable *chevaux-de-frize*, behind which the French infantry was posted, and which was thus enabled to pour in their destructive fire with all desirable ease and comfort to themselves.

As the whole country over which the French advanced appeared to be perfectly practicable for the passage of artillery, I could not well understand the necessity of delaying their operations for the purpose of making a road.

It not being deemed prudent to extend our ride to Sidi Feruj, we returned to dinner at Mr. St. John's, where the merits of the iced champagne were not a little enhanced by the great heat of the weather.*

* The average degree of heat at Algiers, from the 13th July to the 2nd August, the period of our stay, was 86°, the maximum being 89°, and the minimum 81½°.

To view the country on the other side of the town, we passed through the Bab Hazoon, and immediately commenced ascending the heights by an excellent military road, made by order of the Duke of Rovigo, entirely by the labour of his troops. This road passing through an old Turkish burial ground, crossing several times an ancient Roman road, leaves Fort Emperor close on the left, continues on for some distance, and then branches off, in one direction towards Belidah, and in the other to the Haraj, but it is not yet completed.

Fort Emperor, or Sultan Kalaahsi, or Burj Muley Hassan, as it is also called, is an irregular brick fortress, without ditch or outworks, having walls forty feet in height towards the town, and thirty towards the interior, and stands at the distance of one thousand yards from the Kazbah, and about one hundred and forty feet above it, but is itself commanded by heights at the different distances of two, three, and four hundred yards. Its elevation above the sea is two hundred and twenty metres. It occupies the spot where

Charles V. in 1541, established his head quarters. After the shameful retreat of this monarch, Hassan Pasha, the successor of Khaïr-ed-deen, built it, and for a long time it bore his name. Running close to it, we see the remains of an ancient Roman road, which appears to have continued its direction to *Rusucurum*, Sidi Feruj. Between Sultan Kalaahsi and the Kazbah are the ruins of the Star Fort, which was destroyed by one of the Deys, who feared its great vicinity to his residence the Kazbah. Between the Kazbah and the Star Fort is a large handsome cavalry and artillery barrack, lately built by the Turks. Sultan Kalaahsi was, as is well known, partly blown up by the Algerines in 1830, and the extent of damage done to the walls by the explosion is easily seen by the new and fresh appearance of the reparations. The view from Sultan Kalaahsi is beautiful and comprehensive, embracing Algiers, its mole, batteries and shipping, Boo-Zariah with the exalted minaret of Sidi Yakoob, the Vigée, the blockhouse, Husseyn Pasha, the Wady Koreish, the plain of the Metijah, the Atlas,

Capes Dellys and Temendfu, the course of the Haraj, the barracks and plain of Mustafa Pasha, &c. We continued our ride through a rich and well-cultivated country, to the advanced posts, forming entrenched and fortified camps, within which the troops are encamped.

We returned by a new and good road, passing by the picturesque post of Beer el Ghadem, (" Well of the Slave,") rendered so by the happy grouping of a café, the corps de garde, a fountain, with its Arabic inscriptions and ornaments, and some fine willows under whose shade were seen gaily enlivening the picture, a variety of French soldiers, Moors, Arabs, and horses; and afterwards debouching from the hills, we entered upon the plain of Mustafa Pasha, where the French have erected extensive hut barracks. Beyond is a fort, called Burj Ras tafoura. Most of the old roads are deeply embedded in the soil or rock, the banks rising high and perpendicular on each side, whilst their summits are overshadowed with

the thick foliage of the cactus, aloe, olive, fig, pomegranate, gum-cistus, &c.

Algiers is supplied with water by four aqueducts—namely, of Hamah el Kebeer, of Telmeli, of Ain Boozariah, and of Bertraria; these feed sixty-four public fountains in the town, and eleven in the Kazbah, besides a great number of private ones.

I once visited the Haraj, and part of the plain on its right, in search of the ancient town mentioned by Shaw, as existing on its banks, and "which bids fairer," he adds, "than Algiers to be the ancient Icosium." I looked in vain for these ruins, which cannot however be those of *Icosium*, for we have every good reason to suppose that town to have stood on the spot now occupied by Shershel, far to the westward of Algiers, and that Algiers itself is the former *Iomnium*, and in this supposition we are certainly supported by the Itinerary, which thus gives the distances from the *Icosium colon.* on the west, to the *Iomnis municip.* on the east.

Opposite the ancient names I have placed

those of the places which I suppose to occupy their sites.—

		M. P.	
Icosium, Col. to			Shershel to
Rusgunia, Col.	—	18	Sunijah
Rusubbicari	—	24	Kaab-er-Roomeah
Gisi, Munic.	—	12	Koleah
Rusuccuro, Col.	—	12	Sidi Feruj
Iomnio, Munic.	—	18	Algiers.

I was certainly told by Moors and French, that much higher up, and at a considerable way from the outposts, are some ruins, of which however, no one could give any account. Perhaps they may be those of *Tigisis*. In order to visit this part of the country it was necessary to demand permission, which was immediately granted by General Trézel, the head of the *état-major*, who not only gave me the necessary pass, but kindly sent forward an orderly the previous evening, to announce to the different outposts that I should be there, and directing that I should be allowed to pass without interruption. Entering my boat, I arrived after a distance of six miles, at the mouth of the Haraj, if such a term could be applied to a great sand-bank, which at that time, formed by

the violence of the north-east winds, completely separated its waters from those of the sea; and as I could not enter its stream, landed near Ain Rebat, where Charles V. disembarked his forces. Crossing some very deep sand, and passing by some French outposts, I struck upon a paved road, running through a country covered with the shrubs of the oleander, then in full flower, the mastic, the gum-cistus, &c. and pursuing it for some time, reached a fine stone bridge, built one hundred years ago. The Haraj or ancient *Savus*, which I found of greater depth and breadth than I had expected, is joined some way above by the Wad el Kermez.

After cruizing about in all directions on the left, I commenced my researches on the right bank, but found not the objects of my pursuit; when, on the authority of a Bedouin, who said there existed some antiquities in the plain, I ventured there, imprudently leaving behind me the protection of the outposts, but finding nothing, I returned luckily in safety to the *Maison Carrée*, or Manzooker, as the Moors

name it; but whether the French name is a corruption of the Arabic, or *vice versâ*, I know not. The near vicinity of some galloping Bedouins, made a retreat highly advisable. This post is an old Turkish caravanserai, often also called Burj el Kantara, to which the French have added some trifling outworks at the angles, and is now garrisoned by a captain, thirty infantry, and eight light dragoons, for orderly duties. From the summit of its terraces we saw the spot lately occupied by the Waleeah Arabs, who had since been surprised and totally exterminated by General Faudoaz; and by the sombre looking tents of several other tribes of the Metijah, as well as the coast to Cape Temendfu, with its fort, and the intermediate one near the Wady Khamees, called *Fort de l'eau* by the French, and Burj el Kifan by the Moors, the ranges of the Atlas, &c.*

* That the French never allow an opportunity of making a pun, or *jeu de mots*, to escape them, was here well exemplified, for among other questions, asking one of the soldiers, who are not over pleased with their residence in Africa, whether he was well fed, he answered, "Oui, oui, Monsieur, mais c'est toujours la même chose, car je

On returning, we met many Arabs on horses and camels, either carrying provisions and forage to Algiers, or returning from it. These are the very people who attack and massacre theFranks, when they find a favourable opportunity of doing so; and though they are searched at the advanced posts to see that they carry no arms, they still manage to smuggle them in. The officer at the *Maison Carrée* told me, that very morning two Christians and three Jews had been murdered by some of them on the very road by which we had passed but a few hours after. Those, however, we now met, or who passed us, were very civil, giving us the "*salam aley kum*," and one party offering us the loan of their fresh horses.

On the 29th July, the anniversary of the restoration of liberty to France was celebrated at Algiers with becoming gaiety. At day-break we were roused by the roar of artillery from all the ships and batteries, and as our vessel was close to both, it may easily be imagined

puis vous assurer qu'il y a plus de quatre mois que j'ai de la fricassée (de l'Afrique assez.)"

that the noise struck not indistinctly on our ears; colours floated from every mast and over every fort; all the troops in their full uniform were under arms; divine service, at which the duke, his family, and all the authorities assisted, was performed in the new square. In the evening, the duchess gave a brilliant ball, the scene of which was quite enchanting, the house is the finest in all Algiers, and its ornaments retain all their original freshness; whilst the gold, vermilion, and lapiz-lazuli, blending together in the tasteful and rich patterns, which so peculiarly exemplify the good taste of the Moors, shone as vivid as on the day when first placed. The patio having been roofed in, formed the ball-room, in the centre of which were the dancers, whilst the idle lounged around under the colonnade, decorated by the flags of all nations, and by the lances of the chasseurs d'Afrique: above was the usual second colonnade, from which the brilliant scene below could be viewed. Every lady was, of course, *en grande toilette*, and the men, whether military or civil, *en grand uni-*

forme. Mixed with the European dress, were seen the splendidly embroidered kabayahs, mintans, and formlas of the Moors, and the quiet and simple bernoos and sefsar of the Arabs. Among these was a sprinkling of the rich though extraordinary costume of the Jewish women, whose head-dress consists in a long cylindrical tunnel of filagree silver work, fixed at the back of the head, and scarcely forming, with the perpendicular line of the figure, an angle of more than ten degrees.

It was curious to see a French officer, whilst drinking his *eau sucrée,* apparently engaged in a long conversation with a bronzed and wild-looking Arab chief, who, though his features expressed it not, was, out of a Dresden china saucer, and with a gilt silver spoon, delighted in discussing apricot ice *au maresquin.* An ex-bey of Titterie, and one of the members of the ex-dynasty of Tunis was present; nor must we forget another most important personage, Bekry the Jew, the original cause of the war which finally placed Algiers in the hands of the French. The Duke is by far too well known by his

talents as an officer, and as a statesman, to render it necessary here to mention him; but I cannot omit saying, that including himself, the whole family seems a most amiable one, and are much liked by every one in the colony.

A considerable part of our mornings was generally employed in visiting the bazaars in search of pretty and curious objects for purchase; good arms, are, however, at present, as rare as they were, soon after the capture, abundant; any thing of the sort which may happen to be offered for sale, being immediately bought up and sent to France, either as presents, or on speculation; handsome and rich dresses, carpets, &c. are still found, and though we were disappointed in the idea of becoming possessed of many pretty things, yet we derived great pleasure from the gaiety of the scene which the little square, or bazaar of the Fig-tree, presents every day about eleven or twelve o'clock.

I could hear of no remains of antiquity at or in the immediate vicinity of Algiers, if we except the Roman road near Sultan Kalaahsi, nor

do former writers mention the existence of any, except Grammaye, who in his "Africa Illustrata" gives copies of two inscriptions, placed on the tower of the great mosque which has lately been demolished. The country about *Iomnium*, or by whatever name it was known at a still remoter date, was inhabited by the *Nababes*, a tribe of the *Masæsylii*, and was afterwards included in the province of *Mauritania Cæsariensis*. Algiers was founded on the ruins of *Iomnium*, by Yusuf Zeiri, an Arab prince, in 935, or 323 of the Hejra; little is, however, I believe, known of its subsequent history, (nor

* The population of the Deylek contains no less than nine different races of inhabitants, which may thus be chronologically classed.

1. Berbers or Kobailes, inhabiting the northern summit of the Atlas.
2. Biskeris or Mozabs, living to the south of the Atlas: they are descendants of the Getulians.
3. Moors: a mixed descent of Mauritanians, Berbers, Carthaginians, Romans, Vandals, and Arabs.
4. Arabs: some are Bedouins, and others settlers and agriculturists.
5. Jews.
6. Turks.
7. Kool Oghlous, descendants of Turks and Moors.
8. Negroes.
9. Europeans.

is it my intention to investigate it,) till, at the commencement of the sixteenth century, we find Selim Etteumi, of the family of Telaliba, and then sovereign of the country, applying to the two brothers, known to us by the names of Barbarossa, for assistance against the Spaniards, who had established themselves on the little island immediately opposite his capital, and where they had strongly fortified themselves. The round castle, which is still seen, was, if not entirely, at least in great part, built by them at this period. Horruj and Khair ed Deen willingly gave the required assistance, and the Spaniards were driven from the coast; but more intent upon their own aggrandizement than on the prosperity of their ally, they soon put an end to Selim's days, and Horruj ascended his throne; but being killed in action in 1517, was succeeded by Khair ed Deen, who is indisputably the founder of the power and prosperity of Algiers; a power which, for three centuries, was the dread of all Christian nations, and to which the greatest sovereigns of Europe did homage and paid tribute.

CHAPTER III.

Departure from Algiers—African Shores—Count de Beaumont—Bona—Troops—Market—Arab Corps—Hippo Regius—Wild Animals—Unexpected Event—Hippona—Situation—Roman Well—Ahmed Bey—Taking of Bona—Cannon—Adventures of Yusuf—Detention—Release—Monte Rotondo—Tunis Frontier—Galita Islands—Expected attack—Cape Serrat—Cultivation—View of the Goletta.

HAVING seen all that was worthy of notice at Algiers, we prepared for our departure, but were detained two days longer, on account of the many rumours which circulated respecting the existence of several Greek pirates off the coast, especially towards the shores of Tunis. Commodore Cosmao, the naval commander of the station, to whom I applied to ascertain the correctness of these reports, showed me some

letters from Tunis, in which it was positively stated, that three of these corsairs had lately been seen in the vicinity, and that one Neapolitan vessel had already been captured by them; he advised me, in consequence, to wait for further information which he expected to receive on the return of some of his cruisers, regretting, at the same time, that he had not the means of furnishing me with an escort.

On the morning of the 2nd of August, the Astrolabe and Finistère having arrived from a cruise to the eastward and reported that they had seen nothing, we weighed anchor and continued our voyage, accompanied by the Béarnaise, which was going part of the same way. On the 4th, we sailed by Ras Ashoon-munkhar, or Cape Sigli, which is distant eighty-five miles from Algiers; and a little beyond, and at the bottom of the gulf of the same name, is Boojeyah, *Coba*, or, according to others, *Portus Saldæ*, where all the timber required for the arsenals was formerly brought from the interior, and thence conveyed by sea to Algiers.

"At Bugia," says Lithgow, a traveller in the early part of the seventeenth century, "being now called Arradetz, there was auncient beautifull temples, colledges, magnifick buildings, hospitals, and convents after their fashion: but the towne was taken and razed anno 1508, by Peter, King of Navarre." It was also bombarded in 1671, by the English under Sir Edward Spragg.

Beyond is Cape Jijel, or Zizeli, *Igilgilis*, the first place on the African shores which the Barbarossas possessed themselves of, and which may therefore be looked upon as the grain or seed from which sprung the great power of Algiers.

In the evening we were under the lee of Ras Sebaa-roos, or Cape Boujarone, *Tretum prom.*, inhabited, according to all accounts, by a barbarous race who live in caverns, and who much ill use those who may be cast away on their coast.

Between Jijel and Sebaa-roos is the mouth of the Wad el Kebeer, which higher up, and under

the name of Wady Rummel, bathes the walls of Constantina: this river is the famous *Ampsagas*. Crossing the gulf of Stora, *Sinus Numidicus*, at the southern extremity of which is Stora, or Esgigata, *Rusicada*, we made Ras Hadeed, or Capo Ferro; but contrary winds prevented our doubling it, and for two days we did nothing but tack on and off shore without making the least progress, the sea being at the same time so agitated as to preclude all other amusements than that of shooting at the immense number of palamedes which were sporting around. The whole of the coast from Ras Temendfu to Ras Hadeed is bold, rocky, and picturesque, and is called by the Arabs El Adwah, "the high or lofty." From this to Ras el Ahmar, the country is lower, though this cape itself, joined to the main by a low strip or neck of land, rises boldly out of the waves. The coast between these two last capes was formerly studded with towns and villages, such as *Col. Lucitanæ*, *Zaca*, *Muharur*, *Tacatua*, *Collops-parvus*, and *Sulluca*, different settlements in

the country of the *Iontii.* Now nothing was visible but numberless and dense wreaths of smoke, the result, probably, of the Arabs burning the stubble.

Having finally doubled Ras el Ahmar, *Hippi promontorium*, and the Punta della Guardia, we passed by Mars el Berber, or Porto Genovese, and the *Stoborrum prom.* of Ptolemy, and anchored in the evening of the 9th off Bona, or Bled-el-Aanab, as it is called by the Arabs, (بلد العناب * "town of jujubes,") built where formerly stood *Aphrodisium.* The captain having been on shore to obtain pratique, returned with a very civil note from Count de Beaumont, offering his services, and proposing to show us, on the following morning, the ruins of *Hippona*, or *Hippo Regius*, situated a short distance from Bona. It was late, but we went on shore to thank him for his attention, and to settle the hour of departure. This he fixed at

* This name has been given in consequence of the number of the *Rhamnus ziziphus* which grows in the vicinity.

sunrise, and said he would undertake to procure a sufficient escort to protect us. We also met the colonel-commandant of the town, who showed us over the place, which was then in an almost complete state of ruin, though the French had already cleared the streets, and some of the houses were again rising out of the ashes. Bona is built nearly at the bottom of a bay formed by Ras el Ahmar and Ras Bufahal, and is surrounded by a wall strengthened at certain intervals by square towers: towards the sea, the ground on which it stands rises almost perpendicularly from the water. At the landing-place are the remains of a Roman pier, and within the walls are seen many ancient columns, &c. Every street has, the same as at Algiers, its French name painted at the corners.*

The Kazbah is built on a commanding height at a few minutes' walk from the town, and the

* Bona does not, however, appear to have ever contained any very handsome buildings, and Leo Africanus, speaking of it, says, "All the houses and buildings thereof are verie base, save one onely temple which standeth next the sea."

French were erecting some new works at a short distance from it, which will command an important pass. The view from the Kazbah is very beautiful, overlooking one of the prettiest plains imaginable, and an extensive range of fine bold mountain scenery, covered in great part with wood, and the resort of the lion and the panther. In the valley we observed a detachment of troops, and a large herd of cattle winding their course towards the town. On inquiry it appeared that the Arabs had that morning surprised and carried off this herd, but the troops having been sent after them, were bringing them back, after having sustained a sharp affair with their enemies.

Besides the garrison, which amounted to three thousand four hundred men, but of which five hundred were in hospital, the population of Bona consisted solely, at the period of my visit, of three hundred shopkeepers or camp followers, and about the same number of Moors and Arabs, who are beginning to return, in order to see if they can recover any part of their

property. It formerly contained a population of twelve thousand souls.

We rose early on the following morning, and at six o'clock were at the appointed rendezvous, outside the Bab Kostantinah, where the bazaar is held, and to which the Bedouins, though they may the day before have been engaged with the French troops, and probably intend before evening to recommence their attacks, find it their interest to bring their cattle, sheep, and poultry for sale; and it was curious to see the French soldier and the Bedouin horseman, though bitterly hating each other, quietly bargaining for a fowl. This market is well supplied, and the provisions not dear; for an ox may be bought for from thirteen to seventeen shillings, a sheep for two shillings, and a chicken for three or four pence. Being joined by the Count de Beaumont, we proceeded towards the bridge over the Boo-jermah, close to which is the advanced French post, occupying a marabet, where we were to wait for the escort. This bridge, about a mile from the town, was

built by the Romans, of very large and regular wrought stones, and is composed of thirteen arches, the whole structure being in a perfect state of preservation. Under its shade we waited the arrival of the serjeant and fifteen men, which I had been led to expect; but to my astonishment, on looking towards the town, on hearing the words 'Voici notre escorte,' I beheld a strong column of cavalry and infantry issuing from the gate, and deploying in the plain in gallant and gay array. This proved to be the auxiliary corps of Arabs, commanded by Colonel Yusuf. As they approached we found they amounted to two hundred men, a fierce, swarthy, wild, and turbanned host, most of them mounted on prancing horses, whilst their arms glittered in the sun, and their silken sanjaks or colours, one of which was the tri-color of France, fluttered above them. Among their ranks no symptom of the Sultan's Nizam-jedeed costume appeared; in fact, there was no uniformity in their dress, for the graceful and negligently folded turbans, like those of the

wild timariot bands of Turkish Asia, the regular folds of Barbary, and the camel-hair cords of the Arabs, were all here mixed in happy confusion; muskets from seven to five feet in length, some richly decorated with silver ornaments, yataghans, sabres, hanjars, and silver-mounted Arnaood pistols, composed their armament. At the head of this warlike gallant band was Yusuf himself, of a handsome person and gallantly apparelled, mounted on a beautiful and prancing charger, a capture he had himself made from the enemy in one of the affairs near Algiers. He was a snow-white horse, with the two fore legs and one of the hinder ones dyed by the effects of hennah to a bright orange colour, (for the Moors never apply the dye to all four,) and proudly curvetted under him. Yusuf is not only a good, but also a graceful rider, and allows no opportunity to escape of proving himself so to the by-standers. It appeared that having heard of our party, he adopted the plan, worthy of a Paladin, of furnishing fair support and countenance to the ladies which

composed it. As soon as he joined us, a strong detachment of *éclaireurs* was thrown across the bridge, in order to clear the thickly-wooded ground in our front from all lurking enemies. Under this protecting shield the main column advanced, exploring the site of Hippo Regius, the *antiquis dilectus regibus Hippo* of Silius, and placed in a situation which really does honour to the good taste of these ancient sovereigns, an opinion which every one who has stood on the highest part of the *mamelons* occupied by this town, and viewed from thence the surrounding scenery, must, I should think, join with me in supporting; for from it you view the town and bay of Bona, the level plains at your feet, through which flows the stream of the Boojermah, and the still larger one of the Sey-boose, a plain which, gradually rising, loses itself in the deep ravines of the surrounding mountains, or abruptly terminates at their base.

The principal range of these mountains is named Jebel Edough, and its sides, as I before observed, are covered with a thick coat of

forest-verdure, whilst the foreground contains the remains of the splendid city of Hippona, the residence of the ancient Numidian monarchs, now almost entirely concealed by the thick dark-green foliage of the numerous fruit-trees which grow in rich luxuriance around them.

The quiet of the scene was, however, at times broken in upon, by some vidette spurring his high-bred though diminutive steed through the surrounding covert, in search of the lurking enemy, or the almost as savage lion; a dropping shot was also occasionally heard from some soldier forming our advanced and encircling line of videttes, fired at some of the latter, or at the wild boar which swarm in these thickets; and once, whilst seated with Yusuf under the shade of a wide-spreading caroobah, eating the delicious figs of the surrounding trees, and quaffing the juice of Burgundy's grape, we were startled by the sound of ten or twelve shots, fired in rapid succession. It was beautiful then to see each horseman quickly mounting his steed, looking to his arms, and

dashing forwards to ascertain the danger which menaced our party. How I then envied Horace Vernet's inimitable talent! Soon after, several reports of artillery were heard proceeding from the ramparts of Bona, which Yusuf knowing to be an order of recall, for the purpose, as he imagined, of being sent out on some expedition against the Arabs, acknowledged by waving his sanjaks from the highest part of the ground. One of these colours was still moist with the blood which flowed from the severed head of an Arab chief who had been killed the previous day, and which had been fixed on the spear surmounting the sanjak. In obedience to this order we marched back to Bona, but not quickly enough to satisfy the general's impatience, for we soon met one of his aid-de-camps galloping towards us, who came with orders to hasten our return. In crossing the plain Yusuf threw forward his cavalry, and ordered them to skirmish as if in front of an enemy, which they immediately did, darting forward at full speed, discharging their mus-

kets, and then turning their horses, galloped back to the ranks, at the same time re-loading their guns. It was a gay and animated scene, and well adapted to give an idea of the excellent horsemanship of these modern Numidians, and of the power and tractability of their horses. We dismounted at Yusuf's house, the cavalry first dashing forward and lining both sides of the approach to it; and as their chief passed, saluting him with acclamations and words of praise. He himself soon after went to see the general, whilst we returned on board, where we had not been long, before a lieutenant from the Zèbre brig of war came to see me, for the purpose of notifying that he was the bearer of an order from the general commanding at Bona, that myself and the whole party were to consider ourselves prisoners on board the brig, but without assigning any reasons for this proceeding.

I shall now avail myself of the time thrown on my hands by this arrest, to say a few words about Hippona.

Bochart derives the name not from ἵππος or anything therewith connected, but from Ubo or Ubbo, a Phœnician word, signifying 'situated in a bay;' adding, that in Syriac, Ubo still means 'a bay,' and that in Arabic also, the same sound conveys a like meaning, but this latter assertion is decidedly erroneous. Some of the writers of the middle ages state that in their time it was called Bosen. By Spaniards and Italians it is now often known by the name of St. Agostino, in honour of that Saint, who was bishop of the town, and a writer of considerable notoriety. Parts of his works which I was enabled to glance at for a few minutes at Bona, are very amusing; among others, I shall bring forward one instance, in which he mentions that, whilst bishop of Hippona, he travelled in company with other devout men through Ethiopia, where he saw many men and women walking about without heads, and to these he preached several sermons; but unfortunately omits informing us what effect they produced on the congregation.

Hippona, as I before observed, was, and deservedly so, the favourite residence of the Numidian kings. It is often mentioned in the different accounts of the wars between the Carthaginians and Romans; was taken by the Goths, and finally burnt by the troops of Othman, the third kalif.

Hippona was built on an isolated ridge of heights, of an oblong form, with a *mamelon* at each extremity, and appears to have been about two miles in circumference. The principal remains are some large cisterns, built with great solidity, so much so indeed, that the arched vaults remain entire, though many of their supports have long since fallen down, and large fruit trees grow on them, whose roots must greatly tend to displace the materials. I have called these ruins cisterns, but they may with equal, if not more probability, have been the ground story of a magnificent palace; for as the town was bordered on one side by the Sey-boose or Zeitun, *Rubricatus fl.*, and on the other by the

Boo-jermah, *Armua?* the inhabitants need not have expended such large sums for the erection of reservoirs of water; I can, however, from the constant state of *qui vive* in which we were kept during the visit, and from our sudden recall, which allowed but little time for investigation, give no decided opinion on the subject. Besides this, is a fine and perfectly preserved Roman well, containing to this day excellent water. The bridge before mentioned, and the quays which bordered the Sey-boose, and a variety of other ruins, which can be discovered through the thick foliage of the fruit trees, but which I was prevented from examining, are still extant. Many inscriptions, I was told, have been dug up, some of which are to be seen in Bona; which town was in great part built with the materials of *Hippona*.

From the bridge towards Bona, is seen an ancient causeway, rendered necessary by the frequent inundations of the rivers. The portion of territory occupied by the French is very

small, not exceeding a radius of one mile; but as they have not possessed it long, they have not yet had time to extend their *cordon*, nor in fact have they the means. However, a powerful force is soon to assemble here, in order to attack Constantina, the heart of the province, and only according to the Itinerary XCIIII. M. P., or eighty-seven English miles distant. That they may succeed, is probable, but such an expedition would at least require an addition of fifteen or twenty thousand men; for to keep open their communications with the sea coast, it would be necessary to establish a chain of fortified works, *à cheval*, on the road; and Constantina itself would require a strong corps to garrison it, and to secure a sufficient extent of the surrounding country.

Ahmed Bey is, as well as all the Arabs, in whose arms he has entirely thrown himself, inveterate in his enmity to the invaders, and would be constantly attacking them, and cutting off their supplies. It remains therefore to be ascertained, whether this precarious possession

of such a colony would repay the great expenditure of blood and treasure which must be incurred to obtain it. Should the invasion, however, take place, the best point of departure would be from Stora, where there is a good port; and the distance to Constantina is only about forty-five miles. The mouth of the Wad el kebeer is still nearer, but I believe it has no safe anchoring ground for ships.

The important post of Bona and its Kazbah was taken by very slender means; for Yusuf, Captain d'Armandy, two non-commissioned officers, one private, and twenty-six sailors of the Béarnaise landed on the 25th March, 1832, and marched up to the Kazbah, which they had understood had been evacuated on the 20th by Ibrahim, leaving only one hundred Turks in it; these, after some negociations, being dissatisfied with their chiefs, opened the gates, and the tri-colour was hoisted. Seeing this, Ahmed Bey, who had for the last four months besieged the Kazbah, retired, but not before he had pillaged and set fire to Bona, and compelled all

the inhabitants to follow him. The French soon after received reinforcements, and Yusuf took possession of the town, first driving out of it a tribe of Arabs, who had come to complete the pillage. One hundred and fifteen pieces of cannon fell into the hands of the French by this coup-de-main. Yusuf was decorated with the cross of the Legion of Honour, made a Chef d'Escadron, and placed at the head of an auxiliary force of native troops which was shortly after organized. Yusuf is by birth a Frenchman, his name Louis Tesser, and his father was intendant of Napoleon's police at Elba. Young Louis having run away from school at Leghorn, was with one of his comrades in a Café, when being invited by some Tuniseens. who were there at the time, to visit their ship, they repaired on board, and whilst employed in eating sweetmeats below, the vessel put to sea. Landed at Tunis, he became the property of the Bey, and received the regular education of a Mamlook. The military exercises, the beautiful horses, the splendid arms and dresses, all

pleased him so much, that he felt no desire to return to France.

An intrigue he had with one of the Bey's harem obliged him to fly, after having narrowly escaped death, for which purpose he was obliged to remain shut up three hours in a large hall-clock. He was received on board a French man of war, and went to Algiers, where he entered the French service, and distinguished himself at the battle of Mahdia. He returned on a mission to Tunis, but under the protection of the French flag, and it was on his way back to Algiers that he seized upon Bona.

I must now return to our party on board. When the lieutenant left me I immediately wrote a letter to the general, begging him to inform me what part of my conduct had occasioned my arrest. This I sent by the captain who soon returned with it, not having been allowed to land; and no one, notwithstanding his earnest request, would undertake to deliver it. He then asked to be allowed to obtain his ship's papers, in order that we might sail

whenever the wind should be favourable. This was also refused. I then sent the letter to the commandant of the Zèbre, but he declined taking charge of it. At last I hailed a fishing-boat, in the hopes of having my letter conveyed by it on shore; but as she was approaching us, the men-of-war's boats ordered her *au large*. I managed, however, to tell the fishermen to send our vice-consul on board, who in consequence came on the following day, and took the letters; for I had added a second one to the general, who however refused to receive them. In consequence of this I wrote an account of the affair to Mr. St. John, our agent and consul-general at Algiers, and endeavoured to send it by a vessel which was then sailing for Algiers; but the brig of war prevented my doing so. We were, therefore, most strictly guarded prisoners, unable either to land, to quit the port, or to hold any communication with the shore, even for the purpose of obtaining fresh provisions. The vice-consul, Mr. Llambias, returned to the general, who still refused to receive my letters, but after some time acknow-

ledged that his sole reason for placing me in arrest, was, that I had not called upon him the very instant of my landing. This I had intended doing in the afternoon of the second day, for it was too late on the first evening. I went at too early an hour for visiting, from Bona on the following morning, and his hasty and intemperate conduct prevented my doing so, when I had intended.

Late in the afternoon of the 11th, another officer came on board to state that the general had released us, when I begged him to take back word that I should not certainly avail myself of this act of grace.

We remained at anchor till the 13th, being detained by contrary winds; during which time we never quitted the vessel. I wrote an account of this affair to our consul-general at Algiers, begging him to lay it before the Duke of Rovigo, from whom I received a very civil letter in answer, a copy of which I have inserted in the Appendix, in order to prove that no part of my conduct had warranted such treat-

ment, and that the measures used against me were highly disapproved of and disclaimed by the chief authority.

Marshal Clauzel, in his late pamphlet on Algiers, says, " L'Europe entière s'intéresse au succès de notre établissement sur cette côte si longtemps inhospitalière !" But really if travellers are to be subject to the same sort of treatment which we experienced at Bona, it will still continue to merit the character it originally possessed. I must at the same time repeat, that nothing could exceed the civility we experienced from the Comte de Beaumont and Colonel Yusuf.

We sailed about mid-day on the 13th, doubled Cape Bufahal, near which is found the finest coral, and in the evening were off the Bastion of France, *ad Dianam*, and la Calle : to the east of which is an isolated and conical hill, called by sailors Monte Rotondo, on which are said to be a few fragments of walls; it perhaps may therefore be the site of *Nalpotes*. The Bastion of France and la Calle belonged

for many years to the French, who had there established their coral fishery. The former was abandoned for the latter, on account of the marshes which surrounded it, and rendered the climate excessively unhealthy. And La Calle itself, which about one hundred years since, contained fifteen hundred inhabitants, is now totally abandoned.

On the 14th we sailed close to the Ras el Maloola, to the south of which we saw the island and tower of Tabarca, *Tabraca*, belonging to Tunis; the frontier between which state and that of Algiers is formed by the Wad el Erk, whilst the boundary of Zeugitania and Numidia was defined by the *Tusca*, the present Wady Zaine, more to the eastward, and flowing into the bay of Tabarca. The province of Numidia extended from the *Tusca* to the *Ampasagas*, or Wad el Kebeer, on the west; but the whole of Numidia continued in that direction as far as the Ma Zaffran, on the left bank of which commenced the Mauritania Cæsariensis. To the north of Ras el Maloola we

distinguished the Jalta, or Galita islands, *Calathe vel Galata ins.* They are three in number: Galita, Galitona, and Aguglia, *Palmaria*, and we had ample time afforded us, by a strong easterly wind, of becoming acquainted with their appearance; for, during three days, we could do nothing more than tack from the islands to the shore, and from the shore to the islands, without advancing in the least. The distance between them and Capo Negro is about twenty-five miles; the largest appears to be three miles in length, high, and rocky, but to the south is a good anchoring place, and a spring of clear water. Its only inhabitants are wild goats. This island was formerly often resorted to by pirates, when they wished to careen their ships, or to lay in fresh water.

One night, about twelve o'clock, I was awakened by the busy and unusual trampling of feet on deck, and shortly after my servant knocked at the door, and said, "We must stand to our arms, sir,—a pirate is bearing down upon us." It is not a very

agreeable thing to be roused from a pleasing and dozing reverie as you lie stretched in your *chaise longue*, before a good fire, enjoying all the luxury of the *dolce far niente*, by the intimation that it is time to dress for a ball; still less agreeable is it to be woke at midnight from a sound sleep, to fight some Greek rascals, and that with scarce any clothes on, (for in your haste they are never to be found,) and dabbling about with naked feet on a deck streaming with the heavy dew of a southern clime. My toilet did not take me long, for putting on my overalls and fastening them with a shawl round my waist, where I placed a long yataghan, and taking up my rifle, I proceeded on deck, when I beheld, in the shape of a large Xebek, trying to cross our bows, the disturber of my repose. Our two large guns were loaded with grape, and every man was ready with his cocked musket to answer the fire we momentarily expected to see flashing from the dark sides of the Xebek, from which no sound, even of the human voice proceeded, though we had repeatedly hail-

ed her. We were now within pistol shot of each other, and expected she would endeavour to carry us by boarding; but suddenly she went about and returned towards the main land, apparently thinking we should prove too strong for her; and thus ended the *alerte*.

There was, however, one circumstance which pleased me very much; namely, that though we had ladies on board, and the crew were all either Neapolitans or Sicilians, there was, during the whole time, no noise or confusion, nor were even the favourite Sicilian oaths of *Santo diavolo*, and *santissimo diavolone* heard; every thing was done cooly and silently, the only casualty was my little boy's nurse, who had fainted in a corner.

On the 17th, saw the Fratelli, two high rocks about three miles from shore, which were formerly called *Neptuni aræ;* one of them exactly resembled a high-backed chair. Behind us, as the mist cleared away, we saw Ras el Munshikhar, or Cape Serrat. Sailing on, we distinguished Ras el Dukhera and Ras el Keroon, beyond which appeared Ras el Abeadh, *Candi-*

dum prom. This part of the coast is much lower, and in many places presents considerable tracts of barren sand, extending from the summit of the hills to the water's edge.

Next day we sailed near Bizerta, *Hippo Zarytus*, and passed between Cape Zebeeb and the Cani rocks. The country now became better cultivated, and in all directions were immense plantations of olives, the trees standing in regular rows. In many parts, were, however, seen large tracts of yellow and barren sand. Many little villages enlivened the scene.

We then, leaving the Pilau rock on the right, sailed between Cape Farina and the isola Piana, a low island pierced through in one part by a natural arched canal. Having passed the cape we beheld the island of Zembra, *Œgimurus*, and Cape Bon, the other extremity of the Bay of Tunis; beyond it, the town of Porto Farina, and the long and low line of coast which extends from it to Ras Sidi Boosaed, or Cape Carthage. At night we anchored off the Goletta, having at last succeeded, after five different, and all hi-

therto unsuccessful attempts, in reaching the Tuniseen shores. On going on deck the following morning, I had the satisfaction of looking upon the hills formerly occupied by the great Carthage; whose ruins I felt the greatest impatience to visit, but could not land till we obtained pratique. I therefore contented myself with gazing on the surrounding objects which formed a very beautiful panoramic view, comprising Carthage, the Goletta fort, the lake with the town of Tunis, stretching in a long line beyond it; the hills above Hammam'l Enf, backed by the bold rocky masses of the Lead Mountain, then covered with a lovely purple tint; the plains of Suleyman, and the promontory of Hercules, whilst around us, were anchored ships of all nations, and boats filled with turbaned Moors, were sailing between them. Our Consul-General, Sir Thomas Reade, shortly after came alongside, told us we should soon have pratique, and most kindly invited us to spend some time at his country villa; but as the health-officers at Tunis did not send us the permission to land

till very late, we remained on board that night, and very early the next morning Sir Thomas Reade came and accompanied us on shore to the Goletta, from whence we proceeded in his carriages to the Abdalleah, the name of his pretty residence at El Marsa, a place about five miles from the Goletta.

CHAPTER IV.

Carthage—Its Antiquities—Origin—Derivation—Citadel—Erection—Destruction—Magnificence—Remains—Limits—Fragments—Fortifications—Cisterns—Amphitheatre—Temple of Ceres—Palace—Harbours—Lake—Canals—The Abdalleah—El Marsa—Hill of Ghamart.

Qua devictæ Carthaginis arces
Procubuere, jacentque, infausto in littore, turres
Eversæ; quantum illa metus, quantum illa laborum
Urbs dedit insultans Latio, et Laurentibus arvis;
Nunc passim, vix reliquias, vix nomina servans,
Obruitur, propriis non agnoscenda ruinis.

EARLY on the morning following, I walked to the site of the great Carthage,—of that town, at the sound of whose name mighty Rome herself had so often trembled,—of Carthage, the mistress of powerful and brave armies, of numerous fleets, and of the world's commerce, and to whom Africa, Spain, Sardinia, Corsica, Sicily,

and Italy herself bowed in submission as to their sovereign—in short,—" Carthago, dives opum, studiisque asperrima belli;" I was prepared to see but few vestiges of its former grandeur, it had so often suffered from the devastating effects of war, that I knew many could not exist; but my heart sunk within me when ascending one of its hills, (from whose summit the eye embraces a view of the whole surrounding country to the edge of the sea,) I beheld nothing more than a few scattered and shapeless masses of masonry. Yes, all vestiges of the splendour and magnificence of the mighty city had indeed passed away, and its very name is now unknown to the present inhabitants. Two wretched villages, Maallakah معلّقه and Dowar es shatt, دوّار الشط "the encampment on the shore," the Marabet of Sidi Abd-ul-Aziz, and the little fort of St. Louis are the only inhabited spots within this part of the vast precincts of the ancient walls; and the scene that once was animated by the presence of nearly a million of active and warlike inhabitants is now

buried in the silence of the grave; no living soul appearing, if we occasionally except a soldier going or returning from the fort, or the solitary and motionless figure of an Arab, watching his flocks from the summit of the fragment of some former palace or temple; in short, solitude and silence hold undisputed sway over the whole scene; a scene which impresses on the mind a feeling of melancholy, which I found difficult to shake off.

During the great length of time which we spent with Sir Thomas Reade at the Abdalleah, I often visited this interesting spot, and shall now enumerate the few objects of antiquity which it contains: this will not require much time, for, as I before observed, few indeed are the objects to be described.

> "Giace l'alta Carthago, e a pena i segni
> De l'alte sue ruine il lido serba."

It may perhaps, however, be as well, previously, to give a short sketch of the vicissitudes which it was the fate of Carthage to undergo.

Carthage was built by Elissa, who afterwards assumed the name of Dido ;* she was the daughter of Belus, and grand-daughter of Jezabel, or Ethbaal, and great-grand-daughter of Ithobal, king of Tyre. She fled from Phœnicia and the court of her brother Pygmalion, in the seventh year of his reign, or 874 B.C.; and at the latter end of that year commenced building a town, on a spot which she purchased from the sovereign of the country. She named it Kartahhadtha קרתא חדתא, "the new city," to distinguish it from another which existed near it, and which then became known as Atica, "the ancient or old town." (عتيق also in Arabic, means "ancient.") This old town was, however, nothing more than a collection of huts, which, in the language of the country, were called "Magar," and afterwards changed into "Magalia." Thus Virgil, in describing the first view

* All Carthaginian names of persons had each a meaning, as we find it also the case with the Arabs. Bochart states, that Elissa is derived from אלאשה, which he translates "divina virgo;" and that Dido, דוד, is derived from בדד, to "wander."

which Æneas had of the rising city of Carthage, says:

"Miratur molem Æneas, magalia quondam."

This village afterwards formed, under the name of Magaria, one of the three districts of Carthage. Silius Italicus alludes to this aboriginal settlement in the following lines:

"Proxima Sidoniis Utica est effusa maniplis,
Prisca situ, veterisque ante arces condita Byrsæ."

Many other derivations of the word Carthage have been advanced, some deducing it from Cadmeia, "the eastern;" though, where lies the similitude, I am at a loss to discover; others from Cacabes, the Phœnician for a horse's head; one having been found on laying the new foundations, (see Æn. I. v. 444, and Silius Italicus;)

"Ostentant caput effossa tellure repertum
Bellatoris equi, atque omen clamore salutant."

and others, again, from Cataco, by which name it is mentioned on the naval column erected at Rome to the honour of C. Duilius Nepos, in commemoration of the victory he ob-

tained over the Carthaginian fleet in 260 B.C. The citadel, or fortified palace, which Dido built for her residence, was called the Byrsa, not from the oft repeated story of the Βύρσα, or hide, but from Bosra, the Phœnician for a fortress. Carthage consisted, properly speaking, of three different towns, but all inclosed within the same wall; namely, Byrsa, "the citadel;" Cothon, from Katum, "a cut or excavation," and which included the port and that part of the town inhabited by merchants, and persons connected with the navy; and, thirdly, Magaria. The former occupied the heights above the Marabet of Sidi, Abd-ul-Aziz; the second, the low land round the salt-works in the direction of Ha'ck el Wad, or the Goletta; and the third, which was by far the most extensive, stretched in rear of both from the banks of the lake to the sea-shore below the present village of Sidi Boosaeed.

Other dates than the one I have given have been assigned as the periods of the foundation of Carthage, but the discordance between many of them may be reconciled by the fact of

each of the three subdivisions having been built at different periods, which circumstance may have led historians into mistake. Appian states that Carthage was built by the Phœnicians under Zorus and Chachedon, fifty years before the fall of Troy, or 1234 B.C. This account must, however, refer to the old town which Dido found on landing, and near which she built the new one. Justin says in 825 B.C., or 72 before Rome; but both Dionysius of Halicarnassus and Velleius Paterculus state, that it was built sixty years before Rome,—813 B.C, or thirty-seven before the first Olympiad. This may refer to that part of the town called the Cothon. According to this supposition, the three divisions of Carthage were founded at the following periods: Magaria 1234 B.C., the Byrsa 874, and the Cothon, 813. Carthage was solemnly consecrated by Dido, nine years after its foundations were laid.

As I am not writing the history of Carthage, I shall pass over the seven hundred and twenty-eight years of its almost uninterrupted glory and prosperity, and at once arrive at the epoch

of its destruction by P. Q. Scipio, the second Africanus, in 146 B.C.; and cannot here avoid observing, that though the Romans had always accused the Carthaginians of want of faith and honour, and that the words *Punica fides* had become synonymous amongst them, with every thing that was deceitful and treacherous, no part of the Punic conduct ever equalled the base and cowardly treachery of the Romans themselves under L. Marcius Censorinus, and M. Manlius Nepos, previous to the opening of the third Punic war. In fact, we shall in vain search through the world's annals to find its parallel. Thirty years after its fall it was in part rebuilt, and colonized by C. Gracchus, who gave it the name of Junonia. The new settlement languished on feebly for one hundred and two years, when M. Antonius and P. Dolabella raised it to a comparative degree of prosperity; and, finally, Augustus, following up the plan proposed by his predecessor Julius Cæsar, rebuilt it with considerable splendour; though even then it fell far short, both in extent and

magnificence, of the original town: for Pliny calls it the "Colonia Carthago magnæ in vestigiis Carthaginis." During the reign of M. Aurelius, it was accidentally destroyed by fire, but he however repaired it. The Gordians, during their ephemeral reign, raised it to the rank of capital of the Roman empire. In subsequent ages, it became the head-quarters of the Christian religion in Africa, under which it underwent great changes; for we too well know with what degree of acrimony and perseverance the early Christians endeavoured, by all the means in their power, to destroy and obliterate all traces of paganism; and no where perhaps was this principle more fully acted upon than in Africa. This destruction of splendid temples and other profane edifices was however, according to the accounts of the writers of those days, highly conducive to the prosperity of the city and the happiness of its inhabitants; for Martianus, speaking of the city, says, "Carthago inclyta pridem armis, nunc felicitate reverenda."

In A. D. 312 it was burnt by Maxentius,

taken in 439 by Genseric, and in 533 re-taken by Belisarius, who afterwards considerably repaired it; and in obedience to the orders of the Emperor he named it Justiniana, an appellation by which it was only known in official documents; finally, in 698, or 79 of the Hejrah, it was taken and totally destroyed by the Saracens; since which time it has constantly remained under the dominion of the Mussulmen, excepting however the two short periods when it was occupied by the French under St. Louis in 1270, and by the Spaniards under Charles V. in 1535.

This brief sketch of the history and misfortunes of Carthage will, I think, sufficiently explain the reason why so few of its remains have survived to the present day, and why none of even this small number can be asserted to be coeval with the ancient or original town; at least with no degree of certainty can we affix to any of them, except perhaps to the two public cisterns, any very remote date; and to these I am inclined to do so, from the idea that how-

ever destructive and unsparing may have been the feeling which actuated the successful invaders, they must at the same time have felt too selfishly interested in the preservation of these useful and indispensable establishments, to have foolishly destroyed them. The aqueduct which supplied with water the larger cisterns, must, according to this principle, be also acknowledged as the work of the Carthaginians.

It is extremely difficult, at this day, to estimate with any accuracy the former limits of Carthage. Livy tells us that its circumference was twenty-three Roman miles. Shaw reduces it to fifteen English or nearly seventeen Roman miles. I cannot, for my part, speak with any great certainty on the subject, but refer my readers to the rough plan of Carthage, in which I have marked the boundaries of the Punic and Roman towns, as I imagine them to have existed. I have consulted, I believe, all the necessary authorities, and have compared them

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together. It would be, however, misplaced in such a trifling work as this, to enter into all the arguments, as I had at first thoughts of doing.

The same difference exists in the account of the Byrsa, Servius stating its circumference to have been twenty-two stadia, or nearly three miles, whilst Eutropius gives it only two thousand paces; this latter calculation is very nearly correct. A level area on the summit of this hill, on which are found many pieces of rare marbles, as serpentino, giallo, rosso, and verd'-antico, porphyry, &c. Some trifling fragments of edifices, and the traces of its triple walls, are all that remain of its splendid fanes and palaces—of the temple of Esculapius, approached from the sea-side, as Arrian and Livy inform us, by a magnificent flight of sixty steps, and rendered so interesting from having been the place in whose flames Asdrubal's noble-minded wife destroyed herself, her children, and nine hundred Roman deserters, rather than submit to the yoke of the haughty vanquishers of her

country—of the temple of Juno, mentioned by Virgil:

> Hic templum Junoni ingens Sidonia Dido
> Condebat, &c.

—of the royal palaces, and in short of all the splendid edifices which covered its surface. On the southern side of the hill, the Byrsa was guarded by three lines of walls, forty-three feet in height, exclusive of the parapets and towers, one of which rose at the distance of every hundred and sixty yards. These towers were of four stories, and their foundations descended to the depth of thirty feet below the surface, and were adapted to contain stabling for three hundred elephants, four thousand horses, and quarters for twenty-four thousand men, besides provisions and stores sufficient for several months' consumption.

From this description we may form some slight idea of the immensity and splendour of the mighty Carthage; a city which required seventeen whole days to consume it, and which, notwithstanding the enormous sums it had ex-

pended during the war, contained, when taken, so much wealth, that we are assured Scipio collected, after the fire, and after it had been given up to the pillage of his troops, objects which were valued at a sum equal to £1,500,000.

The best, or rather, in fact, the only well preserved constructions, is the lesser set of cisterns, situated under Burj jedeed, or Fort St. Louis; they form an oblong square of four hundred and forty-nine feet in length by one hundred and sixteen in breadth; there are eighteen cisterns, each ninety-three feet long, nineteen feet eight inches wide, and to the summit of the vault twenty-seven feet six inches high, but only capable of containing a depth of seventeen feet of water. On each side of the length of the building runs a gallery six feet six inches wide, which opens upon each of the cisterns, and at the N.E. end are two large and deep wells, which do not communicate with the other reservoirs. At the angles of the opposite extremity were two circular rooms with little domes or cupolas, one of which only now remains; there were also two similar ones at each

end of the tenth cistern, (counting from the S.W.) These rooms may probably have been the residences of persons appointed to take care of the reservoirs. The tenth cistern is also divided in its breadth by a wall; the four first and the eleventh are at present quite filled up. These cisterns were not supplied by the aqueduct, but solely by rain water, which, falling on the roof, was conducted by earthen pipes below, and these pipes still exist. These cisterns, as well as all the other buildings extant at Carthage, were built with small and irregular-shaped stones imbedded in a great quantity of very hard mortar.

The larger set of cisterns are seen at Maallakah, and they may, in fact, be said to constitute the village itself, certainly at least the greater part of it. They are in a much greater state of dilapidation than the others, though they are all inhabited or converted into stables. I counted thirteen of them, but there evidently existed originally a great many more. Shaw states, that in his time there were twenty.

Their dimensions are about 350 feet by 25, and there is a fourteenth running transversely to the others and differing in dimensions from them, being 5 feet higher, but only 17 feet 6 inches in breadth. They were supplied with water brought by the aqueduct from Zaghwan, after a course of fifty-two miles, and discharged into them by a channel three feet wide, which also supplied some large adjoining edifices; the ruins of which are seen in and round the village.

In the plain, at the foot of the hill at Maallakah, and in the direction of the lake, are seen the foundations of an amphitheatre, whose extreme length was about 300 feet by 230, and the dimensions of the arena 180 feet by 100. This building was supplied, when it was required to convert it into a naumachia, with water from the cisterns. Between this and the hovels of Dowar-es-shat are the traces of a circus. The aqueduct itself has been totally overthrown by the hand of man, but its huge fragments are distinctly seen from Maallakah,

stretching across the plain to the hills above Arriana, and resemble the bleached vertebræ of some enormous serpent. I shall, however, more fully describe this wonderful structure in another part of this work.

The Burj jedeed, or Burj Sidi Boo-saeed, as it is also called, is built on the ruins of a very extensive edifice, which I imagine to have been the temple of Ceres. The supports of a long and wide flight of stairs leading down to the sea are still extant, and this circumstance has induced some to suppose, especially as the want of minute descriptions of the localities of ancient Carthage leave the wide field of conjecture and of theory open to all, that here stood the temple of Esculapius, and that consequently these heights were those occupied by the Byrsa. The principal reason, however, which would make us reject this supposition, is the description given by Strabo of the situation of the citadel, in which he states that it was surrounded by the town.* Within the walls of

* Κατὰ μέσην τὴν πόλιν ἡ ἀκρόπολις, ἣν ἐκάλουν Βύρσαν, ὀφρὺς ἱκανῶς ὀρθία, κύκλῳ περιοικουμένη.

the fort, which however I was never permitted to enter, are buried the remains of Louis IX., the saint-sovereign of France, whose heart was conveyed to, and deposited in the cathedral of Monreale, near Palermo, where the following inscription commemorates the fact:

HIC IACENT TVMVLATA VISCERA ET COR LVDOVICI REGIS FRANCIAE QVI OBIIT APVD TVNISIVM AN. DOM. INCARN. 1270 MENSE AVG. 13, INDICT.

By one of the secret articles of the treaty, concluded between the Bey of Tunis and the French in 1830, but which was never ratified, the little fort was to have been demolished, to make room for a large monastery and chapel, which the French were to have erected on the spot of earth which covers the remains of their pious king. The Moors consider St. Louis and their great saint, Sidi Boo-saeed to have been one and the same person; positively asserting that the French monarch, on his death-bed, abjured his own religion, and embraced the doctrines of Muhammedanism, changing, at the

same time, his name to Boo-saeed (ابو سعيد 'the father of happiness.')

On the brink of the sea-shore, which was formerly bordered with stone quays, are the ruins of a very extensive building, or rather of several contiguous ones; perhaps a fortified palace, with a temple and baths, and the ruins of which may have formed the basis of the stately church dedicated by the Arians to St. Cyprian of Carthage, for there are two holy personages of this name in the Romish Calendar, one of which is thus denominated, and which, according to Procopius, stood close to the sea-shore. Parts of its Mosaic floors are still seen, and nothing can exceed the surprising solidity with which it was built. One fragment, in particular, and which at a distance resembles a lofty tower, quite astonishes the eye by the greatness of its proportions. It is composed entirely of small stones and mortar; however, we may presume that all the great edifices were cased exteriorly with wrought stones, and at all events we have ample proofs, from the great

quantity of slabs of different and beautiful marbles, which are to this day found at every step, that their interiors were lined with these valuable materials. Almost adjoining this large ruin are the remains of a small theatre, facing the sea. In many other parts of the plain and of the heights are seen other fragments of ruins, several cisterns of private houses, capitals, parts of friezes, cornices, and columns, and even fragments of inscriptions; but of these such small portions remain, as to render the task of copying them entirely useless.

The harbours are clearly traced at the salt pans, between Carthage and the Goletta, and not at El Marsa, as stated by Shaw, who founds his supposition solely upon the name المرسي, signifying in Arabic "the Port;" and I scarcely know any place more unsafe for ships, admitting even that there existed a sufficient depth of water to receive them, than the *Marina* of El Marsa, as the bottom is full of rocks, which, in many instances, rise within a few feet of the surface, and no shelter whatever is to be ob-

tained from northerly and north-easterly winds, which, during a great part of the year, blow into the bay with the greatest fury: besides, we know that the ancients never anchored in open roads, however good and safe they might now be considered by our sailors. They always sheltered themselves in natural ports, behind protecting head-lands, or in artificial harbours, formed by man. When none of these could be obtained, their ships were drawn up on shore, a system still followed by the Italian coasting vessels, to whom the *stant litore puppes* applies at present, as well as it did formerly, to the ancients; and who also, I should doubt, would feel much inclination to do so at this place. No vestiges whatever of the foundations of a mole are any where to be seen; and what I have imagined he saw, was nothing more than the rocks under water, which can clearly be discerned when the waters are not much agitated.

It is well known to all, that the harbour of Carthage occupied two separate basins; the outer one for mercantile vessels, and the inner one for

men-of-war. In the centre of the latter was an island called the Cothon, which gave its name to this harbour, and to a district of the town, and on which was built the Admiralty Palace, and other edifices connected with the naval service. The piers of the outer harbour, which extended out to sea, are now under water; but the outer and inner harbours themselves, though filled up in the manner we see them, are clearly traced, as well as the island in the inner one.

We cannot at first but feel surprised, that the Carthaginians, instead of making an artificial port, which it evidently must have been, did not avail themselves of the lake of Tunis, now, in many parts, of quite sufficient depth to have admitted their largest gallies; and if the lake, as is probable, did not then communicate with the sea, a canal might easily have been made, to join them. But we must recollect, that in those days, the lake was little more than a marsh or *stagnum*, as it is always called by old writers, and it was only when the present canal gave admittance to the sea, that it became at all qualified for its present appellation; though even

then its waters were so shallow, that in summer great quantities of salt were collected in it; and so briny and stagnant were they, that but few fish could live in it. But in 1831, a violent storm caused the sea to force itself through the bank a short distance to the south of the Goletta, and close to the detached fort, and has thus formed another channel of communication, by means of which the water in the lake has become much deeper, and occupies a greater superficies. This lake is now, in its greatest proportions, ten miles long, by six in breadth; two miles and a half from Tunis, and five and a half from the Goletta, is a little island, called Shikle, on which is a fort, now dismantled, and converted into a lazaretto for merchandize.

As the water of the lake has now more circulation, and the saline particles are less condensed by evaporation, and the filth of Tunis is carried off with greater facility, it abounds with a great number of fish, which are caught in the following rather curious manner:—A floating platform is towed astern of a boat, which rows

about in different directions; the fish follow, and, in their gambols, jump upon it, and are caught by a boy, placed there with a bucket ready to receive them. In summer, immense flocks of the beautiful flamingo, or *Phœnicopterus ruber*, are seen sailing about, or resting as immoveable as statues, along the shores: they are called in the country, Shabroos; but the real Arabic name is Nhaf نحاف; the construction of their beak or bill is extremely curious.* Many fruitless attempts have been made to domesticate them, but they soon pine and die.

Returning now to the ancient harbours of Carthage, we shall feel rather embarrassed to fix upon the place where the Carthaginians cut their way through to the sea, when the original entrance had been filled up by the Romans. We certainly do trace two communications or canals from the salt pans to the bay; but their mouths are so close to each other, being

* *Rostrum denudatum, infracto-incurvatum, et denticulatum.*

less than a mile apart, that if the Romans had a blockading force before the first, they could as easily have commanded the second. We must therefore suppose, that after they had filled up the entrance to the port, they retired with their ships to some more sheltered place.

Chateaubriand says, that the harbour is to be traced extending close to the greater cisterns at Maallakah. This is as incorrect as his statement, that the site of Carthage is shaded by fig, olive, and karoob trees: at least, at present, I am not aware of the existence of any tree, save about half a dozen small ones in the little garden attached to Fort St. Louis.

M. Chateaubriand does not, however, from his own account, seem to have felt sufficient interest in the ruins of Carthage, to pay them much attention. He landed at Tunis in 1807, and remained there six weeks, during which time he never quitted the house of M. Devoise, the French consul. When the time of his departure arrived, he went to the Goletta, for the purpose of embarking; but the vessel having been de-

tained one day longer, he was induced by M. Humberg, a Dutch engineer officer, to visit the *local* of Carthage, where he is said to have remained even more than half an hour. This *insouciance* on his part, becomes, however, less surprising, from his former acknowledgment, that though residing some days at Kahira, he had never visited the pyramids, though this did not prevent his name being carved upon their summit. " Je chargeai M. Caffe," he says, " d'écrire mon nom sur ces grands tombeaux, selon l'usage, à la première occasion: l'on doit remplir tous les petits devoirs d'un pieux voyageur."

The Abdalleah, the residence of Sir Thomas Reade, is a spacious summer palace, belonging to the Bey, and was built by that great tyrant Ali Bey, who frequently resided in it, and in which, seated under the colonnade of the patio, it was his delight whilst tranquilly smoking his pipe, to have prisoners brought up from the subterranean vaults and make them undergo, before his eyes, the process of decapitation.

This villa stands near the little village of El Marsa, and is surrounded by a number of other country seats inhabited by the first Moorish families, or by European consuls; all these houses are connected with pretty and shady gardens. To the S. E. rises the hill of Sidi Boo-saeed, on whose south-western declivity stands the pretty village of that name, which it derives from the tomb of one of the greatest Moorish saints, who, as I before observed, is by many of the common Moors supposed to be the same person as St. Louis.

This village contains many good houses, to which the Moors resort in summer for the advantages of sea-bathing. The Bey has also a palace here, and his brother, on the day before his departure for the interior, with the camp, comes to perform his devotions at the sacred shrine. Sidi Boo-saeed is an inviolable sanctuary for all criminals, and it is only within the last eight years that Christians have been permitted to enter its streets. On the summit of the hill are the ruined towers of a castle,

built during the middle ages, by the Spaniards. To the N. W. of El Marsa, is the hill of Ghamart, and on its opposite declivity, a village of the same name, and several pretty country-seats—ancient tombs are also found on it. From the summit of this hill, as well as from Sidi Boo-saeed, is obtained a most beautiful and extensive panoramic view of the whole surrounding country, embracing Porto Farina, Utica, the Majerdah, several ranges of mountains, the salt lake called Sibhah* er rooan, immediately at your feet, the rich and cultivated plains, Tunis and its forts, the lake and island, the lofty peak of the Jebel Zaghwan, the Goletta and the shipping, Jebel er roosas, Hamman 'lEnf, the coast of the Dakhul, the bay, the site of Carthage, the Mediterranean, the isle of Zowamoor, and the rich plantations, and gay looking villas of

* It must be observed that this word though spelt سبخة Sibhah, ought to be pronounced nearly as strong as Sibkhah;—for the first *h*, the خ is extremely hard and strongly aspirated; this observation applies to the names of Ahmed, Mahmood, and many others.

El Marsa. Nothing, in short, can exceed its beauty, especially if viewed during the spring, when the picture is enlivened by the rich and varied verdure of the new leaves and the waving tints of the young corn.

Between Ghamart and El Marsa are seen, in many places, the traces of ancient villas and country houses, and the little Marabet of Sidi Abd-ul-Aziz, is built upon the vaults of one of considerable dimensions. As I did not reside in the town of Tunis till after our return from an excursion along the eastern coast of the Beylik, I shall for the present defer my account of its immediate neighbourhood.

CHAPTER V.

Susa—Monasteer—Adrumetum—Mahdich—Islands—Agar—Hannibal—Leptis Parva—Golta—Thapsus—Maheder—Mahdia—Sidi Saafer—Sfakkus—Kerkines—Pirates.

TAKING leave of our kind host we left the Marsa on the 7th of September, having engaged a Tuniseen pilot called Maatook, who had accompanied Captain Smyth, during his survey of these coasts. I had also engaged as terjeman, a renegade, now a soldier, in the Bey's service, named Ali Abdallah, in the room of Mustafa, my former interpreter, whom I had discharged for having stabbed one of Sir Thomas Reade's servants. We weighed anchor from

Ras Ghamart
Jebel Ghamart
This sketch was hastily and roughly made from my Saddle during several visits made to the site of Carthage whilst residing at the Abdallcrak, and only the principal ruins are marked.
Rocks A.
Remains
Jebel Ahmar
Ancient Tombs
Ancient Wells
Ancient Villa
Ancient Villa
Ancient Villa

the Goletta, and in the evening were becalmed off Ras Addar, or Cape Bon, but on the following morning a favourable breeze bore us smoothly along the eastern coast of the Dakhul, passing in succession Klibia, Kurbah, Nabel, and Hammamet. From near this town the coast becomes very low and flat, but is amphitheatrically bounded in the distance by a range of hills, beyond which are seen towering the lofty summits of Jebel Zaghwan and Jebel Zughar. About the middle of the bay of Hammamet we saw the town of Herghla,* and early on the 9th anchored off the town of Susa; founded by the Tyrians, and once, under the name of *Adrumetum*, the capital of the rich and fertile region of *Bysacium;* which, from these very qualities, was also often called the *Emporium;* and Susa itself was called the fruitful, as I find by the following inscription recorded by Smetius: — COLONIA. CONCORDIA. VLPIA. TRAIANA. AVG. FRVGIFERA. HADRVMETINA. Bochart derives the name from

* *Horrea Cœlia, and Heraclea.*

חצר מאתן, or חצר מאה, "a Region of a Hundred," that is to say, that produced one hundred fold.

Susa, with its battlements, mosques, and batteries, as well as the houses, all painted of the most dazzling whiteness, and surrounded by plantations of olives and fruit-trees, presents from the sea a very gay and pretty aspect, and the surrounding country, though low, appears to advantage from being well cultivated. To the N.W. of the town are two hills remarkable for the perfect resemblance they bear to fortifications; and in the opposite direction, eastward and lower down the coast, is seen Monasteer, embosomed in groves of palm-trees, through which peep forth the little white domes of numerous marabets. On landing we were received by the English vice-consul, and by the vice-kaeed, Sidi Ahmed Boo-ashoor; who, after offering us, at his house, pipes, coffee, and sweetmeats, conducted us over the town and round its immediate vicinity. Susa is not so large as I imagined from the view of it at sea. No census is ever taken of the population by

the Moors, and all attempts to calculate, with any degree of certainty, the number of inhabitants of one of their towns can seldom be attended with success, especially as the people are extremely disinclined to give to Christians, whom they consider as always employed in collecting information respecting a country which they hereafter intend to seize, any clue to assist them in their researches. The vice-consul stated the total number of inhabitants to amount to six thousand, whilst the kaeed reduced the number to two thousand. I am myself inclined to think the former statement nearly correct, but rather, perhaps, under-rated. The kazbah is a large fort, and apparently kept in good repair, but we were refused admittance, on the plea, as the agha or commandant stated, that four of the garrison were affected by the plague—this I, however, imagine to have been a mere excuse, and that his real reason was the fear of incurring the displeasure of the Bey, who had not sent him specific orders to admit us. This agha was a Turk who had travelled much in

many parts of Europe, had served in Egypt during the combined operations of the English and Othmanlis, and elsewhere, in company with our officers. He spoke to me much in particular of Lord Nelson, la donna Hamilton, and Sir Sidney Smith.

In different parts of the town are many columns and capitals, but no remains of consequence, if we except a large vaulted reservoir supported by pillars, and which still supplies the inhabitants with water. About a quarter of a mile outside the Bab el Gharbi are some large fragments of an extensive edifice and of several cisterns; under the gate of town is a sarcophagus, bearing the part of a rudely carved inscription.* The remains of the ancient harbour or *darsena*, are clearly traced under water, and several parts rise above its surface. This port, or *Cothon*, is mentioned by Strabo, ἔιτα Αδρύμη πόλις, εν ᾗ καὶ νεώρία ἦν, by Hirtius, who states that the *reliquæ naves hostium pro-*

* All the inscriptions which I copied during my several tours through the beylek, will be found in the Appendix.

montorium superarunt, atque Adrumetum in Cothonem se universæ contulerunt, and by several other authors has it also been noticed; but Shaw most unaccountably denies the existence of any traces of one. The existence of this port, where we find it, greatly tends to confirm me in placing *Adrumetum* at Susa, and not at Herghla, as Shaw has incorrectly done; for at the latter no vestiges of a port are to be seen, and the distances in miles, and the number of days marches which he quotes on the authority of Hirtius as existing between *Adrumetum* and other places, coincide far more exactly with the situation of the former than with that of the latter town. We also may search in vain near Herghla for the promontory which Cæsar was unable to double, whereas at a short distance from Susa we have Ras el Misteer, or Cape Monasteer, a promontory which may easily, during the prevalence of contrary winds, have proved an insurmountable obstacle to the course of vessels.

In 1537, Susa, then in possession of the

Turks, was attacked by a combined force of Spaniards, Maltese, and Moors, sent by Charles the Fifth, in support of his vassal, Muley Hassan, sovereign of Tunis. The Christian naval forces were under the orders of a Maltese knight, named Paolo Simonei; the troops were commanded by the Spanish general, the Marquis of Terra Nova; and I believe Muley Hassan commanded in person the Tuniseen contingent. The trenches were opened, and a breach finally made, but all the assaults were repelled with such loss to the attacking columns, that the siege was abandoned, and the troops re-embarked.

On the following day, having been invited to dine with the kaeed, at eleven o'clock we repaired to his house, but as he had been informed during the morning that Christians did not dine at so early an hour, the dinner was postponed till one o'clock, and during the time which intervened we were entertained by a Moorish vocal and instrumental concert; and really some of the airs were very pretty. The chief dignitaries of the church came also to pay

us a visit: after which, a dinner composed entirely of the *cuisine* of the country was brought in, and placed before three Moors, who had been invited for the purpose of showing us how so important and indispensable a function as eating, was performed by the modern Byzacians. The ceremony did not last longer than eight minutes, but the execution done in even that brief space of time, excited our unbounded surprise and admiration. Cooscussu, pillaw, fowls, joints of meat, water and musk melons disappearing with the celerity of magic. Finally, at one o'clock our own dinner was announced, when to our astonishment we found the table laid out with knives and forks, and wine; and the dishes, which amounted in number to at least forty, were excellent, but all cooked according to the principles laid down by the cookery books of Europe, excepting, however, the Moorish cooscussu and the Turkish pillaw. After dinner the kaeed's wife joined the party, discarding her veil for the occasion. The kaeed then told us, that he had sent on board our brig a few fresh provisions, which consisted,

as we afterwards found, of bullocks, sheep, fruit, vegetables, bread, and eggs, the whole filling two large boats.

In the course of the afternoon, mounted on a good strong mule, I started with M. Constant, Ali, my terjeman, and two soldiers, for Mahadeah, the rest of the party returning on board with the intention of taking us up again at that port. We rode along the sea-shore, passing by an inlet of the sea, into which, during the rainy season, a stream called the Wady Amdoon discharges its waters, and close to which is the village of Sahaleel, the "Quæque procul cavis non æquos Ruspina fluctus" of Silius Italicus, and the place often mentioned by Hirtius in his account of the civil war. The country is very low, but on approaching Misteer is covered with thick plantations of the olive, the fig, and the date-tree. Having loitered much on the road, we did not reach the gates of this town till long after dark, and then found them closed against us; but after some time, one of the soldiers discovered a small aperture in the wall about four feet in height,

and twenty inches in breadth; when, leaving our horses and mules outside under charge of one man, we entered the town and lodged in the sheikh's house. On the first appearance of dawn, we sallied forth to sketch and view the place.

There is no reason to suppose that Misteer occupies the site of an ancient town, but, on the contrary, from the name of Monasteer, by which it is known to Christians, we may conclude that it owes and dates ts origin from some monastery which was formerly established on the spot. It is at present walled in and fortified, and picturesquely placed on the sea-shore, possessing a tolerable port for coasting vessels. Off it are two little rocky islets, called Sidi Salah, and Sidi Feruj, at which is a *tonnara;* and further out at sea, we perceive the low islands known by the name of Joorieh, or El Kuriat, and the *Tarichiæ insulæ* of antiquity. The cape near the town, called Ras Misteer, was the *Dionysii promontorium* of the Romans; and also, in my opinion, the cape of Ammon, mentioned by Strabo, who, in speaking of it,

states, that in former days likewise the tunny fishery was carried on here, as it is still in the present day, εἶτα ἄκρα Ἀμμωνος (βαλίθωνος πρὸς θυννοσκοπίαν.)

The view of the town, its battlements and towers, and the Bab el Khokhah, the pastures and the burial-ground, as seen from the marabet of Sidi Messari, is very pretty.

Re-occupying our saddles, we rode several miles close to the shore, and then turned to the right to visit the ruins of Agar, a town occupied by Cæsar during the civil wars of the Romans, and now known under the name of Boo-Hajar, "father of stones." Here we find several remains of walls, cisterns, and vaults, besides a ravine or water-course which traversed the town, and is bordered on both sides by the ruins of a variety of edifices, none of which appear to have been of any magnitude. A little before reaching this place, we had passed at Sidi Madooni some quarries which had no doubt supplied the stones employed in the construction of *Agar*. From this place we descended into the low plain bounded by the sea to Lamtah, a village built

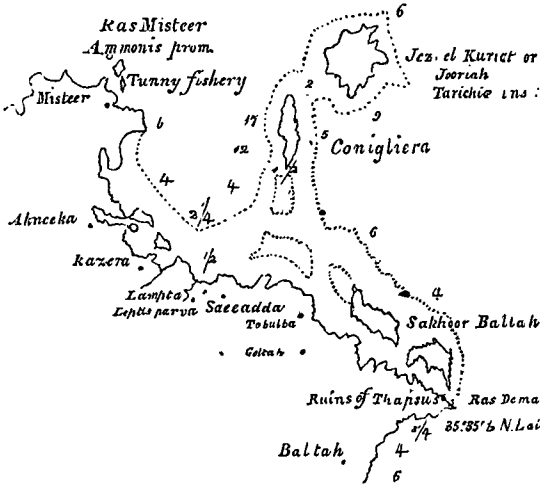
on the spot formerly occupied by *Leptis parva*, but which at present contains little more than the walls of a castle or fort, apparently of Saracenic construction. *Leptis* is derived from the Punic word לבת, "a station." It was a very wealthy place, as would appear from what Livy says, "Ea singula in dies talenta vectigal Carthaginiensibus dedit."

This is the spot where Hannibal, in 202 before Christ, having been recalled by his government from the shores of Italy, the theatre or arena for a succession of many years, of many of the numerous and splendid victories which he gained over the legions of Rome, hitherto supposed to have been invincible, landed with a part of his brave army to defend the safety of his own country, then menaced by the powerful forces which his inveterate enemies had thrown on its soil, for the well-imagined purpose of removing the seat of war from the Italian to the Punic shores. Hannibal, however, it appears, did not originally intend to land here, but finding on the first head-land which was discovered, and which I presume to

have been Ras Misteer, a ruined tomb, he deemed this too inauspicious an omen, and in consequence directed his fleet to land the troops under his command at a short distance below, namely, at *Leptis parva*, where, according to the accounts of ancient historians, existed in those days a very commodious and safe anchoring station, far safer than it is at the present day; for, on referring to the charts of this coast, it would appear as if many of its features, and the general outline, had undergone considerable changes, and that the bay of *Leptis parva* was then of considerable extent, being terminated on one side, by the promontory of Ammon, and on the other by the largest of the Tarichian islands, which were formerly united to the continent; or, more properly speaking, the shoals I have marked rose still nearer the surface, and were in consequence as well adapted for breaking the violence of the waves to afford safe shelter, as if an isthmus of firm and dry land had existed. Lucan alludes to the safety of this port:

" Proxima Leptis erat, cujus statione quietâ
Exegêre hyemem nimbis flammisque carentem."

The annexed sketch will, perhaps, more clearly explain my supposition, as the line of shoals will indicate the original conformation of the sea-board.



Riding through the prettily situated village of Saiyadda, probably the ancient *Usceta*, through Mukhoomeen, round which the country is rich and beautiful, though far from

bold, we reached Goltah, built on a range of gentle heights near the sea, which is extremely shallow here, and forms several large lagoons, in great part separated from it by long narrow sand-banks. We rested our horses at the marabet of Sidi Fadhl-ed-deen, which, standing on a rocky hillock, in parts cut into quarries, commands an extensive view; and here, perhaps, stood the fort erected by Cæsar to prevent reinforcements and assistance being sent to succour the Thapsitans by Scipio, and the materials for erecting which were probably taken from the above-mentioned quarries. Passing along through a low plain, bearing in many parts a surprising growth of rich and refreshing water-melons, of which we partook largely, we arrived, after leaving on our right a range of low hills cut into other very extensive quarries, at Ras Demas; scattered round which are seen the remains of the once large and powerful town of *Thapsus*, whose adjoining soil was moistened by Roman blood spilt during the

battle, which, in the annals of the civil wars, bears its name.

". . . . uberior Rutulo nunc sanguine Thapsus.
Sil. It.

I had received at Tunis many splendid descriptions of the vast remains of this town, and now felt much disappointed at seeing so few of them extant, and these few in such a state of perfect ruin. The principal and only ones, in fact, are those of some large cisterns, a palace or fort, and of an amphitheatre, whose length, extending from N.E. to S.W., measures two hundred and forty feet, and that of the arena one hundred and fifty, whilst its greatest breadth is two hundred, and that of the latter one hundred and ten feet; a small part of the wall inclosing the arena, and faced with large wrought stones, and the inclined supports of the stairs leading to the first gallery still remain; but by far the most solidly constructed work is the pier or mole, which is formed, at least what remains of it, of small stones imbedded in mortar of the

greatest hardness and durability. Many columns and other blocks of marble taken from *Thapsus* have served to adorn the houses of the neighbouring maritime towns, whilst coins and gems, and other small but valuable objects are still often found by the Arabs when ploughing or digging within its former precincts.

From hence we galloped on, as evening was fast closing in, for the distance of nine miles to Mahadeah, whose gates were on our arrival already shut. This, however, was a matter of small consequence, as the numerous breaches in the walls afforded us the choice of a variety of entrances. The dark and frowning masses of the old Spanish battlements and towers, their rugged outlines starting forth from the smooth back-ground of a clear and moon-light sky, contrasted well with the modern and glittering white Moorish forts on which the lunar rays threw their soft and delicate light, and formed a most lovely scene. As there happened to be neither kaeed, vakeel, or sheikh at that time in the town, the agha of the citadel declin-

ing to assist us in any way, we remained a long time riding through the different streets in search of lodgings, the fondooks or inns being too dirty to induce me to take up my quarters in them. At last, a kind Moor, by name Sidi Hajji Muhammed, lent me one of his houses during my stay, which was very clean and comfortable, being provided with beds. Mahadeah formerly *Turris Hannibalis*, is built on a point of land surrounded by shallow water, and to the south of it is the anchoring ground: it is at present a wretched place, without shops or bazaars, and cannot, I think, contain above three thousand inhabitants, but was however once a place of great strength and importance. This town was built about 912, A. D. by Obeidulla, a descendant of Ali, khalif of the western empire. He assumed the name of Mahadi, or Director, (of the faithful,) and the town took its name from him. It was taken by the Christians, but these soon lost it to Abd el Moorum, a prince of Morocco. In 1519, Pedro de Navarre attacked it, but was repulsed with very great loss.

It was for a time the strong-hold of Dor-

gooth, the famous Turkish naval commander, better known by the name of Dragut, who wishing to form a depôt for his prizes, had possessed himself of the town, which was at the time an independent republic, not acknowledging the sovereignty of Tunis. In 1550, Mahadeah, commanded by Eeis Esseh, during the absence of his uncle Dorgooth, who was then devastating the coasts of Spain, was besieged by a large force of Genoese, Neapolitans, Spaniards, and Sicilians, under the orders of the viceroy of Sicily, and a corps of Maltese knights and soldiers under De la Sangle, assisted by a powerful fleet under Doria; and after a most powerful defence, in which the Turks, who preferred death to slavery, were all killed, the town was taken at the expense, however, of torrents of Christian blood. The town was then, by the orders of Charles V. subsequently strongly fortified, but this monarch discovering, that the place was not easily tenable, destroyed the works, and abandoned a great part of these walls and towers, which appear to have been built with great strength and solidity; es-

pecially on the land side, and which are still seen encircling Mahadeah, or Africa, as it is also called by Franks.

On the south side of the point we perceive the darsena or inner harbour, forming a large oblong square, which is at present quite dry. At the entrance, and constituting part of the construction, are several marble columns, brought perhaps from the ruins of *Thapsus;* and in several places on the edge of the sea are found many granite balls, eighteen inches in diameter, some of the missiles employed by Dorgooth against the Spaniards. Above this basin stands the Kazbah, and on a contiguous height, crowned by the marabet of Sidi Jaafer, are some large cisterns excavated in the rock, divided and supported by an upper and lower range of arches; and not far from this are often found coarsely-cut stone sarcophagi, still containing well preserved skeletons; and I was told that under the suburbs exist a very great number of small vaulted chambers and private cisterns. I only found a few illegible fragments of inscriptions. A considerable number of very fine fish,

among which I particularly admired a large species called Joghali, are caught in the immediate vicinity of Mahadeah.

Late in the afternoon our brig anchored in the roads, when I went on board, and on the following morning made sail for Sfakkus. It had been our intention to proceed from Mahadeah to El Jemm, which is not distant from it, and where is to be seen a magnificent amphitheatre; but the absence of all the civil authorities, and the unwillingness of the Agha to further our views, by furnishing us with horses and an escort, obliged us to abandon this plan, and to postpone our visit till after our arrival at Sfakkus. Having passed by Burj Salekhtah, distant eight miles from Mahadeah, supposed by some persons to have been the *Turris Hannibalis*, and by the conspicuous fort called Burj el Kadijah, built on Ras Kapoodiah, or *Caput Vada*, we entered the boghaz of the Kerkines.* This chan-

* It was at Caput Vada that Belisarius landed his army in 533. This cape may also be the *Abrotonum* or *Aboritanus*, which name, perhaps, is derived from עברא. "*Trajectus aut Vadum.*"

nel of the Kerkines is about one mile wide, with from two to three fathoms of water, and then immediately shoals, both towards the main and the islands, to three or four feet. This dreaded passage actually rendered our captain frantic from fear and despair; though, as I before stated, we had on board an experienced pilot, who for no less a period than thirty years had been constantly engaged to conduct vessels along the whole of this coast. The Kerkines, or properly speaking the Kerguenah, were known to ancient geographers as the *Circinæ insulæ*. They are three in number, Shraga to the east, Ramlah, which is the largest, in the centre, and Gherba to the west; they are all extremely low, and are covered with date and other fruit trees.

On the evening of the 13th we anchored in Sfakkus roads. This town, the ancient *Taphræ* or *Taphura*, is said to derive its name, اسفقّص from the great quantity of فقوّص or cucumbers, which grow near it. It is surrounded by a wall, and presents from the sea the usual gay, white, and clean exterior of most Moorish towns. In the sixteenth century it

was alternately taken and retaken by Dorgooth and Doria. Its present population may amount to about twelve thousand souls, who now pursue quiet and peaceable occupations; though not many years ago they were mostly all pirates. Jelooli, one of the richest individuals in the Beylek, and father of the present kaeed of Sfakkus, made the great bulk of his fortune by his cruizers, of which he is said to have possessed no less than twenty-three at one time; and so successful were they that eight rich prizes have arrived in one day, to fill his coffers with the plunder of Christians.

Sfakkus possesses no remains of antiquity, except columns and capitals, which are found in the houses of most towns and villages in the regency, but it is a good place to purchase coins and gems, which are brought here for sale by the Arabs from the surrounding country. This trade is, however, monopolized by the Jews, who buy them all up, and re-sell them to Christians at Tunis with great profit to themselves. I was, however, so fortunate as to purchase about forty engraved seals, on cornelians principally.

The town is surrounded at a short distance from its walls by a belt of country villas and gardens, to which the inhabitants retire during the summer; whose number amounts, according to the kaeed's account, to above two thousand, which at first may appear greatly exaggerated; but when we consider that even the greater portion of the poorer class of the inhabitants are in possession of one, however small, and that this belt varies in depth from six to eight miles, we shall be more inclined to credit the statement. I called upon the kaeed, to announce the intention of the whole party to visit El Jemm, when he immediately, and in the kindest manner, told me that he would do all in his power to render our little trip agreeable; and it was arranged that we should start the following afternoon, and march a few miles, in order to lessen the fatigue of riding in one day the distance of above sixty Moorish miles. The kaeed, who speaks Italian, asked me if I had seen the great reservoirs of water outside the walls, in which he seemed to take great pride; for, as in all southern and hot

countries, good water constitutes, in the eyes of the inhabitants, the principal, if not only attraction of any place; and often, in subsequent tours, when asking the usual question of what there might be worthy of observation in their neighbourhood, I have invariably received one of the following answers, delivered in one instance with an expression of high pride and self-satisfaction: "Yes, we have an abundant source of fine water;" or, in the other, "None: we are obliged to fetch our water from a distance, and when obtained it is not good:" the features, during the delivery of these words, strongly indicating a feeling of discontent and inferiority to their more fortunately situated neighbours. On my replying to the kaeed's question that I had not, he observed that I ought no longer to delay doing so, and told his physician, a Sicilian, who during our stay at Sfakkus was very kind and of the greatest service, to conduct me to them. I found them to consist of above three hundred distinct cisterns, some of which are probably ancient, all supplied by rain-

water, inclosed by a wall, and are called the Naseri. Scarcely an inhabitant of Sfakkus dies without leaving some of his property either to keep in repair the existing wells, or to form new ones.

During the afternoon of the 14th, after having lunched with the Kaeed's doctor, we left the town for Sidi Salah, where we were to sleep. A chariole, the common two-wheeled and covered carriage of the country, drawn by a mule, in the shafts, on which sat the driver, and by two horses abreast in front, was provided for the ladies of the party; but as it could only conveniently contain two at the same time, they were alternately to ride on horseback. For my own use, the Kaeed had lent me his own favourite mare, and all the rest were also well mounted. A chaoosh and six soldiers formed our escort, and two Arabs on bât horses carried water and provisions, the whole party consisting of eighteen persons.

After leaving the villas and gardens, we entered on a vast untilled plain, only broken by a

few gentle undulations, and almost totally devoid of trees. After riding twelve miles, we arrived at the marabet of Sidi Salah, near which we found, ready pitched, a capacious and commodious tent, which the Kaeed had sent on, in the morning, for our use. By some inexcusable mistake, our wine had been left on board, and we were now fain to satisfy ourselves with some not very clear water.

The following day we pursued our course over a continuance of the same sort of uninteresting country, varied only in some places by a few scattered wild olive trees. Our ride was several times enlivened by the appearance of small parties of gazelles, which we amused ourselves by galloping after; and, during one of these chaces made on the left, I came upon the traces of a Roman villa or village, of which, however, but little more than the foundations, and part of a mosaic floor were visible. These trifling remains may probably indicate the situation of *Bararus*, which I think must have stood in a line between *Taphra*, Sfakkus, and *Tysdrus*, El Jemm.

Within two miles of this latter place, the land is cultivated, and inclosed by hedges of the *cactus opuntia*, or prickly pear, through an avenue of which we soon after beheld the great amphitheatre towering loftily over the miserable mud hovels of the village, and appearing still more colossal from the lowness of the plain, and smallness of all surrounding objects.

Having, on leaving Sfakkus, been told that the Saheb-el-taba's palace at El Jemm should be prepared for us, I had sent back the tent from Sidi Salah as an unnecessary incumbrance. This we all now extremely regretted; for "the Saheb-el-taba's palace," which it must be confessed is a name promising well, we found to be nothing more than *one* small room, and that not over clean. The whole of the *cavaliers* were therefore obliged to sleep with the horses in the open yard; this, however, and a few little other inconveniences, are matters of no import, and of course attendant on a visit into the interior of Africa: the Sheikh was also, it must be confessed, excessively remiss in his

duty, and threw us entirely upon our own resources and capabilities of obtaining what we stood in need of. I found, however, that those who slept in the open air, obtained by far a greater degree of repose than those who occupied the interior, where, tormented by a vast multitude of fleas, they were incapacitated from obtaining even the shortest period of sleep.

Immediately after we had dismounted we proceeded to view the amphitheatre, and to ascertain, by inspection, what other remains existed of the former *Tysdrus;* but the only one of any consequence, was this great edifice. Shaw says, that it dates its origin from the reign of the Gordians, who were here first recognised as chiefs, if not by the whole, at least by a great majority of the vast Roman empire, tired by the cruelty and despotism of Maximinus, and who for this support may have erected as a memorial of their gratitude this splendid monument. All this is, however, conjecture, for not the vestige of an inscription, at least that I could discover, remains

to prove or contest the supposition. I entertain, nevertheless, no doubt, that if excavations were judiciously made round the spot, and the interior of all the surrounding hovels minutely examined, the stone bearing the dedication to the Emperor who erected it, would perhaps be discovered. Deprived, however, of the information which such an inscription would convey to us, we are compelled to satisfy ourselves with beholding an edifice which, though yielding in magnitude and splendour to the Coliseum, is still one of the most perfect, vast, and beautiful remains of former times, that exists—at least to our knowledge—combining in itself more of these united properties, than any other building which I can at this moment bring to my recollection. The amphitheatre of Nismes I have never seen; that of Pola in Istria is perfect in its exterior, though completely the reverse interiorly, whilst on the contrary, the one at Verona is diametrically the opposite, possessing the range of seats as entire as at the time when admiring citizens

witnessed the sports performed in the arena for their gratification, but, with the exception of four arches, completely deprived of its exterior façade, the principal and most beautiful feature of these stupendous edifices.

The length of the amphitheatre of *Tysdrus*, which extends nearly east and west, is four hundred and twenty-nine feet, by three hundred and sixty-eight, and that of the arena two hundred and thirty-eight by a hundred and eighty-two. These two latter measurements are taken from the inner *existing* wall, the real boundary of the arena being entirely destroyed. The height of the level of the first gallery is thirty-three feet, and to the summit of the edifice, ninety-six.

The following list may, perhaps, as showing the rank in magnitude which this amphitheatre holds among similar edifices of the same nature, prove interesting.

	Extreme Length.	Extreme Breadth.	Length of Arena.	Breadth of Arena.	Height.
Coliseum	613½	510	281	476	164
Verona	506	405	247	145	
El Jemm	429	368			96
Nismes	430	338			76
Pola	416	337			
Utica	463	240			
Pæstum	211	151			
Capua					
Pompeii	420	335			
Syracuse					
Carthage	300	230	180	100	
Thapsus	240	200	150	110	
TuccaTereben	160	133			

It possesses four ranges of pillars and arches, sixty in number on each, or rather on the three lower ones, for the fourth is a pilastrade elevated on a stylobata, with a square window, in every third interpilaster. The capitals are of the species of the composite order which we see on Diocletian's pillar at Alexandria, with a slight variation in the second range to those composing the first and third. At each extremity was a grand entrance, but the west one, together with an arch on each side of it, was destroyed, together with the same portion of the whole

superstructure, about one hundred years ago, by Muhammed Bey, who thereby wished to prevent the possibility of the amphitheatre being converted into a strong and vast fortress by some tribes of Arabs then in open revolt against his authority. A very small portion also of the exterior wall of the fourth or upper story remains to this day. The interior of this magnificent building is in a far more dilapidated state than the exterior, which, with the above-mentioned exceptions, may be stated to be in complete preservation; but great part of the vaulted and inclined plane which supports the seats, the galleries, and the vomitoria, are still left; the galleries and stairs leading to the different stages were supported by arches and vaults, composed, not like the rest of the building, of large *pierres de taille*, but of a mass of small stones and mortar, and have consequently in many places fallen in. Under the surface of the arena, like those of the Coliseum and amphitheatre of Capua, are seen the same sort of passages, little chambers for containing

the wild beasts, as well as square apertures opening upon the arena, up which were raised the lions and tigers, enclosed in boxes made on the principle of the pigeon-traps used at shooting matches, whose sides, on reaching the summit, being unsupported by the walls of the tunnel, fell to the ground, and working on the hinges which joined them to the bottom of the box, left the ferocious monsters at once exposed to the view of the spectators. The key-stones of the outward arches of the lower order were intended each to have borne some figure sculptured in relief, for on one we see the bust of a female, and on the other the head of a lion; this design was, however, never completed, for on all the others we only see the projecting part of the stone which was to have assumed the shape of different figures or devices. I could discover no inscription on any part of the building except some in Cuphic and Arabic characters: the one which doubtlessly existed to commemorate its founder, was probably placed over the gate, since de-

stroyed, which faced the town of *Tysdrus* to the west. This town, the foundations of whose walls can distinctly be traced, was built round the spot now occupied by the marabet of Sidi Ahmed Bejenani, near which are the substructions of a very fine temple, and in different directions are seen the trifling remains of other edifices. Numerous columns of cipollino, granite, white and Numidian marble, and brescia corallata, are often discovered by the Arabs, who, cutting them into three or four blocks, send them for the purpose of being converted into mill-stones to different parts of the country. I heard that an Arab had, not long ago, discovered a vase containing gold and silver coins, and engraved stones; but from the fear of their being all seized from him, reburied it, though he has probably taken opportunities gradually, and in small portions, to dispose of its contents. Small fragments of porphyry, giallo antico, serpentino, &c. are found plentifully scattered on the surface of the ground. There is also seen a well-executed statue in

white marble, of a young Roman emperor, but the head and feet are wanting; and under one of the arches of the amphitheatre is also found a female draperied statue, also deprived of the head; for the Arabs, immediately on discovering any of these beautiful specimens of ancient sculpture, actuated by a religious and superstitious feeling, break off and destroy this part of the human figure.

The village of El Jemm* الجم, has a population of about five hundred inhabitants, who, during a great portion of the year, live entirely on the prickly pear or Indian fig; but with the exception of a spring of very fine water, it contains nothing remarkable.

At one o'clock in the morning of the 17th, we mounted our horses, and arrived at Sfakkus at mid-day; but all, with the exception of myself, so sore and tired, as to be perfectly incapacitated from accepting the Kaeed's invitation to dine

* The letter J, ج is pronounced in Barbary, like the French *j* in je, &c.

with him at his country-house. He, however, sent large presents on board, consisting of sheep, poultry, gazelles, fruit, vegetables, and bread.

We were detained at Sfakkus by contrary winds till the 22nd, when we sailed for Jerbeh, crossing the gulf of Gabs, *Syrtis minor;* the wind blew so fresh, that we scudded along with only a close-reefed foresail; and, having passed by Burj el Jelis, *Girba*, on the western end of the island, anchored in the afternoon at the distance of four miles from Burj es-Sook, and on the following morning went on shore. The water was so shallow, even at a considerable distance from land, that our sailors were obliged to get out of the boat, and drag it along. On landing, we were received by Mustafa Reis, the English consular agent, and the Reis el Marsa, who undertook to act as our *ciceroni.* They first took us to see a most remarkable edifice, called برج الروس, Burj er Roos; which, as its name implies, is a tower entirely constructed of human skulls, reposing in regular rows, on in-

tervening layers of the bones of the appertaining bodies. This curious tower stands close to the sea, at a little distance from the Fort, or Burj es-Sook, and is at present twenty feet in height, and at its base, ten feet in diameter, but tapering to its summit. With these data, knowing what space is occupied by a skull, a calculation might easily be made of the number of men which were required to build it; though there appears no doubt that it was formerly, as the natives assert, much wider and higher. No tradition is preserved of its origin, except that the skulls are those of Christians. I think it probable that they are the remnants of the Spanish soldiers, who, under the command of the Duke of Alva, having landed at Jerbeh during high water, were attacked and defeated by the Moors, and obliged to fall back upon their boats; but these, unfortunately for them, were now high and dry, the tide having during the action receded; and the ships and transports, to avoid the same predicament, had stood out to sea. The heavy-accoutred Spaniards tried to regain

them, but whilst floundering in the mud and weeds, were shot or speared by their exasperated and more lightly accoutred enemies—who, it is probable, erected with the dead bodies, this tower in commemoration of their victory and deliverance from foreign invasion. To preserve it, it is occasionally covered with a coat of mortar; but when I saw it, a great part of this had fallen down, and exposed to view the ghastly-grinning skulls.

This tower, I believe, is quite unique of its kind, though certainly the Persian monarchs were wont, (according to that entertaining writer and correct delineator of eastern scenery and customs, Mr. Morier,) to erect, after a *grande battue*, similar monuments; but the component materials were not the same as these, for the heads of the animals killed in the chase, and not those of men, were used. These erections are called by the Persians Kellah Minars, corresponding exactly to the Arabic name of Burj er Roos, and one of them is still seen at Guladûn, near Ispahan.

A short mile from this tower, is the Sook, or market-place, a general bazaar of the island, where the manufactures of the country are exposed for sale. These consist in shawls, dresses, bernooses, sefsars, &c. made of a mixture of silk and fine wool, and worked to a degree of beauty and fineness, which cannot, I heard, be any where else imitated; but, at all events, they are extremely beautiful, and induced us to make considerable purchases.

The fort near the tower of heads appears kept in tolerable order, and is surrounded by a deep ditch, filled by the sea. The garrison consists solely of an Agha and twelve soldiers. We afterwards rambled about the country, which, though very low, is pretty, and covered with thick plantations of date and olive trees. There are no towns in the whole island, if we except a large village, called Wad ez Zebeeb; but the surface is dotted by a great number of neat little white-washed houses. The soil is very fertile, producing a great variety of fruit-trees; among these is seen the famous lotus, which,

in former days, gave its name to the inhabitants: "Alzerbe già de' Lotofagi albergo." The present population is said to be considerable, though I could not ascertain the exact amount.

We dined with Mustafa Reis, at his villa near the sea, and about a mile to the east of Burj es-Sook, and returned on board after sunset; but scarcely had we left the shore, when one of those sudden and violent storms, accompanied with rain, which are so well known in the Mediterranean, attacking us in front, we were several times nearly swamped; but finally succeeded, after two hours and a half hard pulling, in reaching our brig.

We remained at Jerbeh till the 28th; during the greater part of which period we experienced much rain and wind, and no one was heard to complain of the heat, for the thermometer never rose above seventy-six, and was generally as low as seventy.

Jerbeh, جربة, well known to the ancients, is mentioned by a great number of their writers.

Herodotus and Eratosthenes call it the island of the *Lotophagi*; Strabo and Pliny, *Meninx*; others *Girba*; and Scylax, Βραχείων, or *Brachion*; Theophrastus calls it *Pharidis*: — *εστι μὲν δυν ἐν τῇ νήσῳ τῃ Λωτοφαγίτῃ Φαρίδι καλουμένη πολυς.* The name of Meninx is derived, according to Bochart, from the Punic word Me-niks, "the failing waters," or from Menics, "the receding waters" — a characteristic feature of the island to this day; for on its shores a far greater ebb and flow of the tide is observed, than in any other part of the Mediterranean;—the sea rising and falling no less than ten feet. All unite in praising the fertility of its soil, which produces not only the lotus, but corn, oil, &c. as Scylax informs us: *Ποιοῦσι δε καὶ ἔλαιον πολὺ ἐκ κοτίνων· φέρει δε καρπὸν ἡ νῆσος πολὺν, πυρὸυς, καὶ κριδάς· εστι δε ἡ νῆσυς ἔυγειός.*

The lotus, however, formed not only the chief food of the inhabitants, but furnished them also with wine; *Ποιεῦνται δὲ*, says Herodotus, *ἐκ τοῦ καρπου τούτου οἱ Λωτοφάγοι καὶ οἶνον.*

According, however, to Scylax, the wine was made of a different variety of the lotus, from the one which was eaten: *Λωτός ὃν ἐσθίουσιν, καὶ ἕτερος ἐξ οὗ οἶνον ποιοῦσιν.*

Plutarch and Solinus state that Jerbeh afforded an asylum to C. Marius, after his flight from Minturnum. This island formerly contained two large towns; but authors differ as to the names they bore. Pliny calls the one near the African main, *Meningis*, and the other, *Thoar*. Ptolemy mentions *Meninx*, and *Gerra*, whilst others add, *Tipasa;* but after all, they may every one be right, if we suppose the existence of four instead of two towns, which is of course very probable. But though formerly so populous a country, I could observe no ancient remains, except some very trifling ones indeed, near the landing place, and in vain did I search for the altars of Ulysses, mentioned by Strabo: — *Δεικνυταί τινα σύμβολα, καὶ βωμὸς Ὀδυσσέως.* There are four ports or rather landing places at Jerbeh. Ajeem on the west, Jerjees on the east, Marsa es-sook on the north, and Marsa el

Kanterah on the south. The people of Ajeem speak Berber, and follow the tenets of Wahab, and the Beni-Mezzab.

The Kaeed of Jerbeh, one of the family of my Tunis friend, Ben Ayad, was confined by illness at one of his villas in the interior; but accompanied by many excuses for not seeing us, he sent us boat-loads of fresh provisions.

Jerbeh would make a very nice little colony for us, being extremely productive in itself, and commanding not only the commerce between the Barbary States, but that to the interior; and would prove an excellent *debouché* for our manufactures.

On the evening of the 27th, a large Tripoleen xebec, well-armed and full of men, anchored close to us, and, to the great horror of our captain, weighed anchor soon after we had sailed on the following morning, and spreading all her canvass, took the same course that we were pursuing, which convinced him beyond any doubt, that she was a pirate, and in full chase after us. This produced in him a degree

of nervousness, which far exceeded that occasioned by any thing like a good breeze, and the consequence was, that all his sails were in succession offered to the wind, under whose power the astonished brig frantically dashed forward with unusual speed; but notwithstanding all our efforts the dreadful blood-red flag was distinctly visible from our deck. Finding it impossible to sustain the agitation produced by this dreadful vicinity, the Archimede was steered into the shallow waters which surround the Karguenahs, and our pursuer then changed his course to the eastward.

On the 1st of October we passed by Lampedosa, *Lopadusa*, a fine bold-looking island, ceded in 1802, by the Neapolitan government, to Don Fernandez, in full sovereignty; who now, however, holds it under the protection of the English flag. It was once colonised by the Carthaginians, who built on it two or three forts; so, at least, says Scylax, who calls it *Lampas*,—a name which we cannot well apply to the little rock now called Lampion,—though

there is much similitude in sound between them; for this latter is a barren flat rock, measuring only eight hundred yards in length, by two hundred in breadth, and incapable of supporting inhabitants, though I have heard that traces of ancient buildings are still seen on it.

Leaving Pantellaria, *Cossyra*, about ten miles to the right, we doubled Ras Addar, and anchored off the Goletta, a little before midnight, on the 2nd.

Early the following morning, Sir Thomas Reade came on board, bringing with him our little boy, of whom he had with his usual great kindness taken charge during our absence. We returned with him to the Abdalleah, where he invited us to remain till I could procure a house in the town of Tunis; a task which I found very difficult to accomplish.

On the 7th Mr. and Mrs. Kerrich embarked, on their return to Naples, and we continued to reside with Sir Thomas till the 20th Oct., when we went to live in the town of Tunis, having at last succeeded in procuring a house in the Morjanah-street.

CHAPTER VI.

Tunis—Slight Sketch of its history—Its position—Population — Climate — Mosques — Improvements contemplated by Yusuf — The Bey's Palace — Moorish stucco-work—The Barracks — Ancient Cistern—Curious mode of building—Pay of Labourers—The Kazbah—The old Palace.

> "Tunisi ricca, ed onorata sede,
> A par di quante n' ha Libia più conte."

TUNIS, known to the ancients by the names of *Tunes* and *Tuneta*, and called by the Moors تونس Toones, is a town of considerable antiquity, being of a date not only coëval with that of Carthage itself, but even anterior to it; for from Herodotus and the Parian Chronicle, we may infer that it was founded about 1250 years before the Christian era, and ninety-one before Utica; and not by the Phœnicians, but by the native Africans; and may probably have been the residence of Iarbas, the prince from whom

Dido bought the land, and who afterwards sought her in marriage. Diodorus calls it λευκον Τυνητα, from the whiteness of contiguous chalk cliffs; but unfortunately for the correctness of his appellation none such exist. Livy says that it was strongly fortified by nature; and considering the ancient system and means of warfare, it certainly was so; though, notwithstanding this advantage, it has invariably, with the exception of the time when St. Louis was repulsed before its walls, fallen an easy prey to the many expeditions sent to assail it. By fortifying the heights of El Khadrah and Sidi Ismael, which at present command it, its position might be even now rendered very tenable. As often threatened by hostile forces as its more powerful neighbour, Carthage, it has not been so fortunate in the results of the attacks In 395 B.C. it was taken by the African forces, who had marched against their former friends and allies, the Carthaginians. Agathocles made himself master of it in 310. It fell into the power of Regulus during the first Punic war, but was soon after retaken by Xantippus. Cornelius Scipio in the second,

and Æmilianus in the third Punic war, easily possessed themselves of it. During the civil wars of the Romans, it was several times taken and retaken. In 439 of our era, it fell into the hands of the Goths, and in 533 into those of Belisarius. The Saracens conquered it in 698. Barbarossa took it in 1531, and lost it to Charles V. four years after; and Algerine armies have four times planted their colours on its towers. Yet, in opposition to all these little historical facts, Tunis is at present always styled "the well-guarded—the abode of felicity." With the exception of columns, capitals, and one or two inscriptions, (see Appendix, Nos. 10, 11, and 11 a,) no vestiges of antiquity are found in the town.

Tunis stands almost on the edge of the lake which separates it from Halek el Wad, or the Goletta, which is eight miles to the E.N.E. of it. To the west, the land rises to the heights which are crowned by the works of the Kazbah, and which, extending towards the north, are defended by two castles. Other heights, which are also strengthened by detached forts, protect it on the south and the east. The

town is surrounded by a wall; and a second one encloses the three suburbs of Bab es-Soueekah, Bab el Khadrah, and Sibhah, this outer wall being about five miles round. The population of Tunis may probably amount to one hundred and fifty-six thousand inhabitants, but in the absence of all official documents on this subject, neither can this nor any other number be given as correct. It is said that about a century ago it amounted to three hundred thousand. Lithgow states that in the seventeenth century the town contained "ten thousand fire houses," by which I presume he meant those houses where the important duties of the kitchen could be carried on. The houses are not so large and handsome as those of Algiers, but the streets are much wider and more regular, and the bazaars are far superior, being vaulted over head, with *trottoirs* at the sides, and resembling on the whole those of Stambool.* The town is said to

* The principal manufactory at Tunis is that of *shasheeahs*, or red caps, which is said to employ twenty thousand persons; they are beautiful, and quite peculiar

be very healthy, especially for children, though from the immediate vicinity of two large sheets of almost stagnant water, it might be imagined to be quite the contrary. The effluvia arising from the drains which are outside the wall, left uncovered, must, I should also imagine, not tend much to the salubrity of the air; but all these bad effects, we are told, are removed or counteracted by the great quantities of mastic, rosemary, wild thyme, and other aromatic shrubs and plants, which are daily burnt in bakers' ovens, the stoves of public baths, and lime-kilns. The climate is temperate, for the average degree of heat during the months of August and September was eighty-three, and the thermometer

to the country, for all attempts to imitate them have failed; the process is very long, and some are made so fine as to cost five dollars. It is a curious circumstance that all the implements employed in their manufacture have Spanish names. The Bey yearly sends to the Sultan as a present a great number of them for his troops. Tunis is also famous for the goodness of its ottos or perfumed oils, the best of which is the *neseri*, or white rose; the others are the *wherrd*, or red rose, the jessamine, amber, accacia, sandal, and musk. They are all much better, though dearer, than those made in the Levant.

never rose above ninety-six, and that but very rarely. From the 19th December, 1832, to the 19th January, 1833, it averaged fifty-five and a half; the highest range during that period being sixty, and the lowest fifty-two. From this it will be seen that the heat in this part of Barbary is not so excessive as many writers have stated it to be, one of whom, Lithgow, speaking of the climate, says, "I saw smiths worke out of cold iron horse-shoes and nayles, which is only molified by the vigorous heate and raies of the sunne." The well-known story of our soldiers cooking their rations on the hot rocks of Egypt, dwindles, in comparison to the above, into utter insignificance. The principal mosques of Tunis, are the Jamaa ez Zeitoon, near the bazaar, which is richly endowed, and was, during the occupation of the Spaniards, converted into a Catholic cathedral; the one of Hammooda Pasha; the Jamaa Sidi Ben-ar-roos, founded by the famous Tuniseen saint and poet of that name; the mosque close to the Dey's town palace; the Jamaa el Jedeed,

near the Bab ez-zirah; the Jamaa el-Zahebtaba, in the suburbs of Bab es-Soueekah, founded by the famous Zaheb-el-taba* Yusuf, who brought columns and marbles at an enormous expense from Sfeitlah, Kazereen, and other ruins of ancient towns, to decorate its interior, after having sent them to Italy to be polished; and close to this the Jamaa of Sidi Mahraz ben Khalef, a most holy man, who lived about nine hundred years ago, and is called by the inhabitants "the Father of Tunis." Had Yusuf lived a little longer, that part of the town round his mosque would have been by him rendered very handsome; in front was to have been cleared a large square with arcades running round it, the different streets leading to which were to have been widened and lined with handsome houses: his own palace, a fondook, and a bazaar, are close to it. The Bey's town palace is a handsome square edifice, erected by Hammooda Pasha; the interior is magnificently decorated, the rooms as usual all open upon mar-

* صاحب الطابع signifies "Lord of the Seal."

ble courts, surrounded by covered galleries supported by white marble columns, and having in their centre little fountains; the rooms are paved with marble; for about ten feet from the floor, the walls are lined with glazed tiles, which add greatly to their coolness; and above this is a very deep border of *Nukhsh hadeedah*, a stucco work peculiar to the Moors, and of the most beautiful, rich, and at the same time chaste effect; intricate but graceful patterns, intermixed with sentences of the Koran, are all cut out with a knife or chisel;* the ceilings are beyond description rich and splendid; on them we see traced in relief the most beautiful patterns in gold, vermilion, and azure, blended together with the greatest taste and harmony. Unfortunately, the great hall of justice has never been finished. The gold em-

* It is to this work that Leo Africanus alludes, when he says that the Tunisees "have verie artificiall pargettings or plaister-works, which they beautifie with orient colours." With respect to the latter assertion, he is, however, incorrect; for the plaister is invariably white. The open work of the windows is, however, filled with coloured glass.

ployed is pure sequin gold, beat into thin leaves.

It was in this palace, that Queen Caroline, the wife of George IV., was lodged during her visit to Tunis. Part of the exterior of this palace, and of other buildings of the same date, have the stones cut in the form of the *certè opus reticulatum* of the Romans. In different parts of the town are five large and handsome barracks also built by Hammooda Pasha. But the handsomest building will be the new barracks now erecting by the Bey, the expense of which he has graciously allowed to be defrayed by three of the principal Moors of Tunis, namely, Ben Ayad, Jelooli, and Suleyman Ben'l Hajj: it will cost about six hundred thousand piastres, but the materials were provided by government. These barracks form an oblong square three hundred by two hundred peeks, surrounding a courtyard paved with stone slabs, in the centre of which is a handsome fountain, and round the court runs a covered colonnade: it has two stories, comprising one

hundred and thirty-four rooms, each capable of containing forty men, or five thousand three hundred and sixty in the whole, but deducting officers' quarters, stores, &c., it will easily accommodate four thousand.

In digging the foundations, two small sarcophagi were discovered; and in making excavations to form a cistern, the workmen came upon an ancient one, in such perfect preservation, that after it has been cleared from the mud at the bottom, it may, without repairs, be immediately used. This cistern properly consists of seven contiguous ones, all communicating with each other by means of lofty arches.

On speaking to the architect and engineers, and asking them to show me their plans, they at first did not quite seem to understand what a plan was: when it was explained to them, they declared they had nothing of the sort, and that, in fact, the Moors never made any previous to commencing a building, but that they built by the eye a certain length of wall, and that when this had been suffi-

ciently prolonged, another was built at right angles to it, and so on. What is still more remarkable, their arches are also constructed entirely by the eye, and have no frame-work to support them during the process, which is as follows: a brick, presenting its broad surface to view, is placed with its edge on the buttress, where is to commence the spring of the arch; another is made to adhere to it by means of a very strong cement made of a gypsum peculiar to the vicinity of Tunis, which instantly hardens; on this brick is placed another in the same manner, and thus they proceed till the arch is completed. I saw a vault myself thus made, in less than an hour and a half. These arches and vaults, when finished, are very graceful and correct in their proportions, and nothing can equal their strength and solidity. In building walls, an oblong frame about seven feet long, and as broad as the wall is intended to be, is placed on the foundations, and then filled with mortar and pieces of stone: in a few minutes the frame is removed, and placed

in continuation of the line. This method appears to have been adopted in the construction of Carthage.

The pay of architects and labourers is not certainly very extravagant, for the former receive from eighteen to forty-eight karoobs a-day, (from one shilling to two shillings and eight-pence,) and the labourers from four to six, or from threepence to fourpence, from which two are deducted for rations. The contract price for finishing a column with its capital is fifteen piastres, and it must be borne in mind that the stone is a hard coarse marble or brescia, found between Hammam l' Enf and Suleyman.

Having obtained an " Amer el Bei," or permission from the Bey, to view the interior of the Kazbah, (a favour which has seldom if ever been granted to Christians, excepting of course to those who are connected with the powder manufactory,) we proceeded there, and were received by the governor and lieutenant-governor at the gate, who had prepared coffee, pipes, and sher-

bet for us in the guard-room. This place is hung round with Spanish armour and weapons—morrions, shields, cuirasses, swords, halberds, and coats of chain mail. We then were conducted all over the citadel, which is of great extent, but in a most complete state of ruin, having but one battery capable of bearing guns: it might, however, be rendered very strong from its position towards the land side. The keep is a large square tower, with round turrets at the angles. In the vaults on a level with the ground, and which are supported by several ancient columns, the nitre is prepared. Opposite are the powder-mills, where so little precaution is used, that I was allowed to enter them with my steel spurs, and I even observed that some of the mules were shod; but "Allah akbar," exclaim the Moors, and as yet certainly no accident has occurred.

The old palace of the Deys was partly standing when I first visited the Kazbah, but in the following spring I saw that workmen were employed in pulling it down. It was in this cita-

del that the Christian slaves, in number about twenty-two thousand, rose on their keepers whilst Khair ed Deen was engaged in battle with Charles V., and by cutting off the retreat to his strong hold, decided the fate of the campaign. The Spaniards greatly enlarged and repaired this fortress, and built the aqueduct which is now seen crossing the road to the Bardo, to supply it with water.

The mosque, in the Kazbah, was built by Aboo-Shakeer, son of Abd-el-Wahad, about 630, H.; (A. D. 1232;) and near it are the tombs of the kings of Tunis, whose dynasty, from its founder, was called the Hafizah.

Some years back, the Turkish garrison at Tunis revolted against the government, and shut themselves up in the Kazbah, from which they commenced cannonading the Bardo. This naturally created great alarm, especially as it did not appear how the insurgents were to be driven out; at last an English officer, named Egan, offered to do it, if the means were placed at his disposal. The offer was accepted, and

the command of a small body of troops confided to him: with these he threw himself into the detached fort called Burj Filfil, and having, after much difficulty, brought two guns to bear against the Kazbah, he opened his fire; after it had continued some time, part of the Turks surrendered, and others letting themselves down the walls, escaped into the country, and order was re-established.

The view from the Kazbah embraces a great variety of interesting objects; the day we were there, the plain immediately at its western base, was in part covered with the tents of the *corps d'armée* which was to march the following morning, under the orders of Sidi Mustafa, into the interior to collect the taxes.

Tunis has many gates, the principal ones are, the Bab el Baheri, or sea-gate, leading to the mole; Bab Kartajinah, the only name which in the whole country commemorates the existence of such a place as Carthage, to the ruins of which it in fact leads; Bab ezzirah, (a corruption of el jezair, "an island,")

opening towards Hammam 'l Enf; Bab el Menarah, so called, not from "a light or lamp," but in honour of the female slave of Muhammed's daughter Fatma; Bab el jedeed, which, contrary to what its name implies, evidently appears to be the most ancient of all the gates; and Bab es Soueekah, or of the "little leg;"—all these give admittance through the second or inner wall into Tunis proper. Those of the suburbs are, the Bab el Khadrah, "of verdure;" Bab Aleah; Bab el Fellah; Bab boo-zaadoon; and Bab Sidi Aboo Salem, near which are two ancient sarcophagi, at present used as fountains.

In the town, not far from the Kazbah, is a gate called Bab es-silsilah, "of the chain," to which is connected a story much resembling the one of Dido and the ox's hide.* Till within a few years, it was death for a Christian to pass

* The difference being, that the Moorish lady who wished to purchase some land, was told she should have as much as she could surround with her gold neck-chain. This she spun to a very long fine wire, and obtained a considerable grant.

through it. The houses of Tunis are built on nearly the same plan as those of Algiers, surrounding an open court, from which is admitted light into the rooms, which in but few instances have windows on the street; I speak, of course, of the houses purely Moorish, for in the Frank quarter they have been altered to suit the habits of their occupiers. The roofs are flat, and form terraces, by means of which a great portion of the town may be visited without being obliged to pass through the streets. Each house has two cisterns, one of rain water for drinking, the other of spring water for washing, &c.; The rain water, falling on the flat roofs, is conducted by pipes to cisterns below, for the spring water is all brackish. Tunis suffers consequently much during a very dry season, from the want of this indispensable article. To remedy the deficiency, many plans have been proposed; one of which was to convey a stream of water from the Majerdah, somewhere near Mjaz el Bab, which, after supplying the inhabitants, would have been sufficient to have carried off the filth

from the drains and sewers into the lake. The expense of the undertaking was, however, considered too great, and the plan was abandoned. I think it probable that a spring, at a sufficient elevation, might be found at el Khadrah, or the Belvedere, as the Franks call it, and close to the town. The best water at present is found at Beer el Kelab, near the lake immediately to the west of Tunis. Near the Bab Sidi Aboo-Salem, is a large public fuzghiah, or reservoir, and near the Bab el Fellah is a second.

In many of the old houses are found snakes and scorpions: these latter are generally of the species called "Maurus," having combs of eight teeth; but occasionally the "Afer" is also found, whose combs have thirteen teeth, and the claws are heart-shaped, and their colour is of a glossy brown-black. This species is said to be the largest and most enormous of the whole race, being sometimes found of nine and ten inches in length, and their sting, if neglected, generally proves fatal.

The English consulate, a very old building,

has been lately pulled down; a new and handsome one is erecting, which is to cost the Bey, or rather some of his friends, (for he is extremely cunning in procuring money out of his subjects' purses,) at least 200,000 piastres. The dirtiest portion of the town is, of course, as every where else, the Jewish quarter; but next to it that of the Christians is highly distinguished for its filth. A theatre has been established at Tunis, in which Italian operas and comedies are acted three or four times a week, and to which is occasionally added a ballet. A *cirque olympique* had also an ephemeral existence. The Catholics have a convent, inhabited by some capuchins, under a Padre Prefetto, and also a chapel and burial-ground at the Marina. The Protestant burial-ground is near the Bab Kartajinah.

I shall now proceed to describe briefly a few of the environs of Tunis, and shall commence with the Bardo, the residence of the Bey and his court. This place is about a mile and a half from Tunis, and resembles a little fortified

town, with its ramparts, bastions, towers, and ditch. The population amounts to at least four thousand persons, who are all employed in some way or other about the court. The derivation of the word Bardo is doubtful; some deriving it from برد "cold;" others, from the country palace of Pardo, near Madrid, which the Arabs, not possessing the letter P, are supposed to have changed to Bardo. It stands in a large plain, without a single tree near it, which renders its appearance extremely dreary and melancholy. After entering the gate, you pass through a street lined on each side with little shops. This conducts to a square court, where you quit your carriage or horse. To the right, is the entrance of the harem, in front, to the stables; and to the left, after having passed through a second court, is the hall of justice and the Bey's own apartments, and I scarcely recollect any place which gives a livelier picture of oriental scenery than the entrance into this second court. Under the arch way, and forming a rich and animated fore-ground, are seen groups of splen-

didly-caparisoned horses, awaiting the return of their masters from the audience-chamber: on the opposite side of the court, rises a wide flight of steps, almost covered by seated Arabs, wrapped in the graceful and classic folds of their sefsars and bernooses, patiently awaiting their turn to be ushered into the hall of justice. These steps lead to a covered gallery, supported by columns, where are seen walking about, or forming little groups, many Moors, soldiers, officers, and attendants, in their gay attire.

> Slaves, eunuchs, soldiers, guests and santons wait;
> Within, a palace, and without, a fort.

Beyond this, is seen part of an interior court, all marble, and columns; and to the right, is the hall of justice.

During my residence at Tunis, I several times attended the Bey's levees; the account of my first visit will suffice to give a slight idea of his court. Dressed in the *grande tenue* of my hussar uniform, I proceeded with Sir Thomas Reade to the Bardo, where we arrived about half-past eight, and remained in the inner

court for half an hour, walking about or talking to the different consuls and Moors, who were also waiting for audience, when a shuffling of slippers was heard on the stairs, and soon after his highness, preceded by the Chaoosh selam, singing forth his praises, entered the court, and proceeded to the judgment hall, followed by his brother, Sidi Mustafa, his two eldest sons, Sidi Hamdah, and Sadek, and his brother's son, Ahmed, the Saheb-el-Taba, صاحب الطابع, "lord of the seals," and several other ministers and officers. Shortly after he had taken his seat, we were ushered into the presence by the Bash Kasak, proceeding up the length of the hall, which was lined on each side by officers, secretaries, plaintiffs, and defendants. The Bey was seated cross-legged, on a throne or musnud, at the farther extremity. We marched straight to him, kissed his hand and seated ourselves on chairs, placed on his right, when he addressed to us several questions, some in Italian, others in Arabic. Coffee was then served, after which the presentation of

colours to the corps, which was to march on the following day to collect the tribute in the interior, took place. When this ceremony was concluded, the Bey proceeded to the installation of the new Agha of the divan, the members of which wore the state dresses of the old regime, which perfectly resembled those formerly in fashion at Constantinople. The *divani-yenicheriah* also wore the old Janizary costume, with their well-known caps and feathers. The Salakat, Bashoda, Chaoosh-botartura, Chaoosh selam, and the Shater, were also all in grand uniform. These latter are four men appointed by the Sultan to decapitate or strangle the Bey, whenever his policy may induce him to rid himself of that high personage. However, for many years their office has been a perfect sinecure; for the supremacy and power of the Sultan is but nominal in Barbary. The costume of these men is extremely handsome, though singular.

The Bey, his family, officers, household, and all the Moorish nobles who come on business to the Bardo, are all dressed in the lately-intro-

duced and highly-unbecoming dress adopted from the Turks. It consists simply in a blue jacket, buttoning in front, with red collar and cuffs, and blue overalls, made excessively large and full to the knees, and then fitting quite close to the leg, as far as the ancle. Round the waist is a red and white sash, and on the head the shasheeah, or red cap with a long blue silk tassel, the same that in Turkey is called *fez*, and in Egypt *tarboosh*. It is impossible to imagine a greater contrast than that which this new costume presents to the former one, of which I was correctly enabled to judge, as I was shown by the master of the robes several of those dresses belonging to the Bey, which were really splendid: the cloth was of the most beautiful shades of colour, almost covered with gold lace, arranged in the most tasteful patterns, and enriched with diamonds, emeralds, rubies, and sapphires. These dresses cost, without the jewels, from three thousand to three thousand five hundred piastres, and each occupied the tailor from six to nine months in making. It

was the custom every year for the Bey and each of his family to put on at every Bayram one of these dresses, made for the occasion; and after it had been worn for the three days, during which the festival continues, it was given to the servants, and another one ordered for the following year. The present dress cannot cost more than forty or fifty piastres, and the tailors are ruined, and ripe for a revolution, which might re-establish the old order of things. The old and splendid saddles, bridles, and horse trappings are, however, still preserved. The only ornament worn by the Bey is an enormous and valuable diamond ring. On a cushion by his side, lay a magnificent sword and hanjar, presents from the Sultan.

The installation of the Agha having been concluded, the Bey announced that he was ready to hear causes, and give judgment, and the trials then commenced, the parties themselves pleading their causes, in a tone of perfect ease, almost amounting to familiarity, their voices being raised to the highest pitch, the

men standing up, and the women crouching on the floor, and two officers holding each of the principals and witnesses fast by the shoulders. No cause took up more than ten minutes, and many were settled in one or two, when the defendants, if found guilty, were taken out to have their heads cut off, to receive the bastonnade, or to pay a fine. The Bey is, however, extremely averse to shedding blood, and few executions ever take place.

Our court of chancery might here take some useful hints about the despatch of business, which would not be very unacceptable to the hosts of clients.

Taking leave of the Bey, we proceeded to visit the minister, or Saheb-el-taba. This man, named Shakeer, was formerly a Georgian slave, but may now be considered in point of fact, sovereign of Tunis; for the Bey has such confidence in him, that he allows him to act as he pleases. Shakeer is a good-looking man, apparently not more than thirty-five years of age, and possesses some talent, but is of a very intriguing disposition.

We then proceeded to view the stables, which consist of a number of separate and vaulted stalls, surrounding an open court, and having no doors: in these the best horses are kept, whilst the others are picketed in the yard. Many of the horses are magnificent animals; and, in fact, whenever a good horse is heard of, the Bey's agents buy him up at their own price; besides which, all the great officers are continually making him presents of the best horses they can procure. The grey horses have their two fore legs and one of the hinder ones dyed of a bright pink-orange colour, with alhennah, as well as that part of the back on which is placed the saddle; but it is considered very bad taste to dye both the hind legs, or the tail. Near the stables is a small menagerie of lions, leopards, &c.

The following is a short sketch of the genealogy of the present reigning dynasty of Tunis, which commenced in the person of Hassan-ben-Ali. This prince, dying in the year 1753, was succeeded by his eldest son Muhammed, who

only reigned thirty months, and was succeeded by his younger brother, Ali, though he had left two sons, Mahmood and Ismael. Ali Bey died in 1782, leaving four sons, Hammooda, Othman, Muhammed, and Mamoon, the eldest of which succeeded him on the throne. Hammooda Basha Bey proved himself a man of very great talents, bravery, and ability, and his reign may be said to have formed the Augustan age of Tunis; he was feared and respected abroad, and beloved at home, for great and many were the improvements he introduced into the country. Hammooda died in 1815, at the age of sixty-three, and was succeeded by his brother, Othman Bey, who only reigned three months, having been put to death, together with his son Salah, by Husseyn, the reigning Basha Bey.

Othman was a man of debauched habits, and imbued with the lowest vices; the scenes which, during his life, took place at the Bardo, might have rivalled those of Tiberius at Capri. His wife and two children are still living,

closely confined in the vaults under the Bardo. At his death, Mahmood, the son of Muhammed Basha Bey, ascended the throne; but he was so imbecile, and incapable of directing the affairs of the government, that his reign was in every respect purely nominal; every thing being done by his son Husseyn, the present sovereign, without whose signature no act, though signed by his father, was valid.

Ismael, the Bey's brother, was made Bey of the Camps; but such was his dread of being strangled or poisoned, that he soon died from actual fear. Mahmood died in 1825, and was succeeded by his son Husseyn, now Basha Bey, and his second son, Mustafa, was made Bey, of the Camps. (See Appendix.) These brothers are said to entertain for each other a great and mutual affection. Husseyn has had four wives, three of whom are now discarded or dead; and, by the famous Fatma, he has issue Hamdah, who is married, and has children, Sadak, and several others. Sidi Mustafa has a son, named Ahmed, a young man of good in-

tellectual powers, but of a cruel and intriguing character; he is dreaded even by his uncle, the Bey, who never dares to leave him at the Bardo when he is himself absent, even for a few hours. Sidi Mustafa will probably succeed his brother. Husseyn is a good-looking man, of about fifty-six years of age, with quick penetrating eyes, and a fine grey beard. His natural disposition is good, and he is well disposed towards Christians. His brother, on the contrary, is, in both these respects, quite the reverse.

From the above sketch of the late sovereigns of Tunis, it will be seen that their reigns are not of so short a duration as formerly; for at one period, namely, from the reign of Kara Othman to that of Hajji Muhammed Khoja, a period of a hundred years, no less than twenty-three Deys ascended the throne, all of whom, with the exception of five, were either strangled or assassinated. But this was even better than at Algiers, where four Deys succeeded each other in the course of one single morning. The survivor was Husseyn, the present ex-Dey.

With regard to the harem, I refer to the following account, given by Lady Temple, of a visit she made there with her sisters. "We were received at the entrance of the palace by Giuseppino Raffo, the Bey's BashKasak, who, leading us up a short staircase, consigned us over to the charge of a Christian woman, who, addressing us in Italian, conducted us to a door, where stood her highness, the Lillah Kebirah, ready to receive us. She took me by the hand, and not speaking any other language but Arabic herself, addressed a great many compliments to us, through the Christian woman, who was a Tuscan, and served as interpreter. We passed through a *patio*, paved with white marble, covered in with a silk awning, and surrounded by arcades, in their turn supported by fluted pillars, likewise of white marble. In each corner was a beautiful vase-shaped fountain to cool the air in this delightful spot, than which nothing could look more truly oriental, and carrying one in imagination completely into those enchanting scenes described in the

Arabian Nights. Under the arcades were seated a number of fat, unwieldy creatures, talking furiously, and looking most attentively at us. No etiquette seemed to reign amongst them, for, on the Lillah's approach, they none of them rose, but retained their half-reclining posture, with the exception of those blacks, who, from their meaner dress, I imagine were very subordinate slaves, and who, as she passed, came up and kissed the palm and back of her hand. Her dress was rich, and, though shapeless, I thought not ugly: indeed they are right in covering themselves with this loose sort of robe; for the immense size to which they all attain, from the constant use of the bath, wearing no stays, and taking no exercise, would be quite disgusting, unless concealed by their dress.

"The Lillah herself, though much larger than we should in Europe consider becoming, was, however, amongst the least of the set. Her dress consisted of crimson silk trowsers, loose till reaching the calf of the leg; they were then made to fit tight, down to the

ancle, where they were covered with the most beautiful, rich, and tasteful embroidery, in gold lace. The bare feet were thrust into slippers, very richly embroidered with gold, with here and there a precious stone, and just large enough to admit four of the extremities of her feet. How they could walk at all with such slippers is a wonder I have never got over; but though indolent people, the Moorish women seemed to shuffle about, and up and down stairs with them, without the slightest inconvenience or difficulty, and the height of *bon ton* amongst them is to make as much noise as they possibly can in walking about; a jacket made of tissue of silk and gold, reaches down to the waist, with no sleeves; in place of these her highness, however, wore a *chemise*. which being made of gauze were very loose, and long enough to be tied in a knot behind her shoulders. Over all this she had a blue figured gauze blouse, confined only at the neck, without any belt at the waist; her head was dressed with a Tunis silk handkerchief, embroidered in

the corners with gold, and which was tied tight round her head; the hair combed straight, and as smooth as possible across the forehead, with some apparently brought from behind, so as to hang down on each side of the face, when, after reaching as low as the bottom of the cheek, it was cut off quite straight: over all was thrown a large veil of rich white figured gauze. From this description of the head-dress, one certainly can hardly conceive that it could look well; and yet, especially with those whose hair was very black, I have seen many Moorish women look beautiful with it, and I think that to all dark complexions it is becoming. The Lillah had, in her ears and on her fingers, rings of brilliants of enormous size; round her neck were chains in great numbers, to which were suspended all kinds of ornaments in gold and precious stones, such as small boxes to hold talismans, scents, &c. some above and some underneath her gauze robe, and some handsome rows of pearls on her arms. She was not pretty, but the expression of her face was most

agreeable and good-humoured, and I felt quite sorry for her when I heard shortly afterwards that she had been put aside by the Bey, to make way for a young girl of thirteen. She led me by the hand through the *patio* into a long room, divided in the centre by an arch-way; one half of this room was surrounded by a low divan; on each side of the door-way, which had been covered until our approach, by a silk curtain of brilliant colours, stood a black slave with a large fan in his hand, beating out the flies. A low round table was laid out in the first half of the room, with a silk table-cloth, and covered with between twenty and thirty dishes of different kinds of cakes and sweetmeats; and here began my misery, for of all these we were obliged to eat. Some of their sweet things are good, especially pistachio cakes, of which they are particularly fond; but they are all so scented with otto of roses, jessamine, and amber, that to my taste they are spoilt. Sherbet, the most insipid of that insipid beverage I ever tasted, was then handed to us.

"The Lillah asked if I had no children, and on hearing that I had a little boy, inquired why I had not brought him, and seemed really sorry; all the Moors, both male and female, being very fond of children. When we had finished our luscious repast, she ordered all the remaining cakes to be put into a basket, and desired that I would take them for my child. She had her own little boy of about two years old in her arms; he was a miserable, sickly-looking child, and by his embroidered dress made to appear still more so; he wore a shasheah tight to the head, with an enamelled chain wound about it, and chains and amulets hung round his neck.

"On leaving the table, we adjourned to the divan at the end of the room, where we were joined by the wife of the Bey's eldest son, a handsome woman, with brilliant black eyes; her dress was in every respect like that of the Bey's wife, excepting that her blouse was of silk instead of gauze, and of two colours, being half pink and half white, the two pieces

joined in front and behind. That division of the room in which the cakes had been served was quite enchanting; the ceiling was vaulted, and painted and gilt in the usual Moorish style, than which nothing can be more beautiful; around the room were all kinds of boxes from Stambool, in mother-of-pearl; above the entrance-door was some of the open stucco-work with coloured glass, which has such a remarkably pretty effect. Where the room was divided, the wall, projecting on each side, was formed into a kind of table or shelf, on and under which were piled mother-of-pearl boxes, looking-glasses, crystal bottles, &c. The divan was low and very comfortable, and the walls round it hung with the Bey's arms, which were splendid—yataghans covered with stones, pistols, swords, and every kind of weapon; but the most beautiful was one called a *topuz*, the whole of which was of fretted gold, completely studded (especially the globe at the end of the handle) with diamonds, emeralds, and rubies: it was the most magnificent thing

in the way of arms I ever beheld. On the walls were also hung a number of watches. Chocolate, perfumed with ambergris, was handed round to us; after which the Lillah, again taking me by the hand, led us up stairs through several suites of apartments, which were all divided into a great number of small rooms, none nearly so handsome as the one we had quitted. From the top story she pointed out the Manoubah, and asked if I did not greatly admire the view? Of course I assented, though I cannot say with truth. In this room was a large double bed, with watches again hung to the wall. On going down the stairs, which are all paved with glazed tiles, as in all Moorish houses, we went across a little square garden into a large vaulted gallery, delightfully cool, with a fountain playing in the centre, full of gold fish. Here, the interpreters told me, the ladies come to amuse themselves in summer by looking at the fish. What a delightful, intellectual amusement! but the poor creatures are allowed no other. and it is a very mistaken no-

tion that they all despise us for going out for amusement, and that they think themselves much happier for being always obliged to stay at home. Indeed, I am sure they envy Christian women very much in that respect, notwithstanding what many affirm, that they do not wish for more liberty; for I never spoke to a Turkish or a Moorish woman, the Bey's wife included, who did not say with a sigh that she longed to go out with freedom.—This room was supported by about fifty white marble pillars, and was also paved with marble. After reposing ourselves here for a short time, we heard a slight bustle at the door, and the Bey himself walked in. We all rose, and the Lillah went to receive him. He addressed us in very tolerable Italian, was very smiling and affable, and after a few minutes conversation, consisting chiefly of reciprocal compliments, he retired. He was accompanied by all his sons, who stood behind him the whole time of his short visit. We then returned to the saloon, where we had been received, and shortly afterwards took our leave.

The Lillah was most gracious, and pressed us much to return again before leaving Tunis."

During our residence in the regency we visited several other harems, which though varying in degrees of richness and splendour, were too much alike in all general points to require separate accounts. Our visit to Ben Ayad's family, to whose house we proceeded after leaving the Bardo, I must not, however, omit to mention, for I there made the acquaintance of his daughter-in-law, who is one of the handsomest women I ever beheld. Her long eyelashes and large jet black eyes I certainly never saw equalled for brilliancy, and her whole face might be taken as a perfect specimen of female beauty, rather enhanced than otherwise, by the simplicity of the Moorish head-dress, which set off her dark clear complexion to the greatest advantage. All Ben Ayad's family are the pleasantest and best informed Moors I ever met with; his wife, who was a most good-natured, merry, talkative lady, seemed delighted to see us, and admired our dress exceedingly. Ben Ayad gave

us a superb breakfast of cakes and sweetmeats of every description, nor was champagne forgotten; and then showed us his arms, which were really splendid, being actually covered with diamonds, rubies, sapphires, and emeralds.

The Manouba is a pretty country villa about two miles beyond the Bardo, and was built by Hammooda Basha; the ceiling is beautifully ornamented with nukhsh hadeedah, and the walls with handsome marbles brought from the ruins of Carthage. The garden is laid out in formal straight walks, and at one extremity is a delicious little kioshk. On returning to the house, we found a *déjeûné* of cakes, preserves, and sherbet, which the Bey had sent from the Bardo, laid out for us.

On the road to the Manouba are two porphyry columns, two feet two inches in diameter, half buried in the ground. Some Christian offered to purchase them from the Bey for one thousand dollars, (two hundred and twenty-five pounds,) but he refused to part with them on account of some superstition connected with them.

The Bey has several other villas; namely, at Murnagheeah, Mohammedeah, Sidi Boo-saeed, and Hammam 'l Enf, at the latter of which only he sometimes resides.

The following are the Bey's titles, copied from a late treaty made between Tunis and France: "Prince des Peuples, l'élite des Grands, issu du sang Royal, brillant des marques les plus éclatantes et des vertus les plus sublimes, Hussein Bascia Bey, maître du royaume d'Afrique." But these appellations are of a retiring modesty compared to those given in the same treaty by the French Consul General, who drew it up, to his king Charles X., who is styled, "La merveille des Princes de la nation du Messie, la gloire des peuples adorateurs de Jésus, l'auguste rejeton du sang des Rois, la couronne des monarques, l'objet resplendissant de l'admiration de ses armées et ministres, Charles, Empereur de France, et Roi de Navarre."

Near the aqueduct, built by the Spaniards, is a pretty villa called Sidi Ismael, belonging

to the Saheb-el-Taba, and behind it, rise the hills called the great and the little Belvedere. Round Arriana, a small village about an hour to the N. of Tunis, and founded, as it is supposed, by the followers of the principles of Arianism, are several pretty villas. In the village are two wells, which have never been found filled at the same time; for when the spring of the one shoots up its waters, that of the other becomes immediately dry. At the Marsa, and at Ghamart, as I before observed, are several agreeable country-houses and gardens; and near the latter, are many extensive vineyards, whose grapes have a very agreeable flavour, and the wine made from them is good, especially if kept for two or three years; but the Tuniseens, who drink copiously of it, commence using it in a month or three weeks after it is made. The Moors are certainly the hardest drinkers I ever heard of, which I think will be proved by the two following instances, both of which occurred during my residence in the country. The kaeed of Jerbeh drank one even-

ing at supper, entirely unassisted, four bottles of rum, which did not prevent his walking about immediately after; and one of the servants of the Bash-Mamlook, after having swallowed, within an hour, a demi-jeanne of wine, equal to twenty-two bottles, asked for some rum. According to Leo Africanus, it would appear that the Tuniseens have other means of raising their spirits than those of wine and rum; for he says, "They have here a compound called Ihasis, (hasheesh?) whereof whosoever eateth but one ounce, falleth a laughing, disporting, and dallying, as if he were halfe drunken; and is by the said confection maruellously provoked unto lust."

Rhades, occupying the site of the ancient *Ades*, is a small village between Tunis and Hammam 'l Enf.

The Goletta, or Halek el Wad, حلق الواد is the fort built on both sides of the canal which leads from the sea to the lake of Tunis, and is thus erroneously described by an old writer: "The great and strong fortresse of

Galetto, builded on a high promontore;" though the land on which it stands, and for some distance around, is quite level, and but little elevated above the sea. I cannot with any certainty state the period of its construction. We know that it existed at the time of Khair-ed-deen's invasion, who enlarged and repaired it; as did also Charles V. after it had fallen into his power, and Hammooda Basha built the batteries which surround it near the sea. It mounts, including the outworks, one hundred and seventy-three pieces of cannon, many of which are handsome bronze ones, presents or captures from Christian powers; of these, two are remarkable for their size and beauty: the one is a ninety-four pounder, and weighs twenty-seven thousand five hundred pounds; the other carries a sixty-eight pound ball: they were both made in Tuscany. The body of the castle is not very strong, but the new batteries are solidly built *à fleur d'eau*, and kept in good order. The fortress is supplied by an aqueduct with water from the hill of Maallakah between

the Goletta and Rhades; and close to the new canal or passage made by the sea into the lake, is another detached fort. On the banks of the old canal is a very large and curious mortar. The present kahia of Halek el Wad, or minister of marine, is Sidi Mahmood, who was lately sent as ambassador to the French court: he is a very agreeable, polished man, and speaks both French and Italian; his father, and predecessor in office, Sidi Muhammed, was many years back ambassador in London, where he married an Englishwoman. It appears he was one day walking in the streets, when he met a very pretty member of the frail sisterhood, who invited him to her house, when he became so much attached to his new acquaintance, that he married her and brought her to Tunis; and after a residence of only ten years, she had so completely forgotten her native language, that she could no longer read any of the books she had brought with her, or understand a single sentence of English which might be addressed to her.

Tunis was the scene of one of those numerous bubbles, which, in 1825, extracted such immense sums from the purses of the credulous and speculative. A coral fishing company was established, and Mr. T—— sent out as its agent. This person purchased from the Bey the right of fishing off the coast, for which he paid fifty thousand piastres, (two thousand one hundred and seventy-four pounds.) He also bought for a small sum a number of *teskerehs*, or licences, which he re-sold to the fishermen for six hundred piastres each. A considerable number of Genoese, Livornese, and Maltese, having altogether about five hundred boats among them, came over for the purpose of fishing; but before they purchased the *teskerehs*, they obtained from Mr. T—— a promise, legally drawn up, and registered in the English chancery, by which he bound himself to indemnify them for any losses they might sustain from the Tuniseen, or any other government; and he moreover promised the protection of two English men-of-war. Furnished with these guaran-

tees, the men sailed, and commenced fishing on a part of the coast which Mr. T—— told them belonged to the company, but which was known to be claimed by France. They had not been long there, when a French man-of-war bore down upon them, captured two of the boats which were afterwards condemned at Bona, and sent off the others. The fishermen applied to Mr. T—— for compensation for their losses according to the stipulated arrangements; but he coolly told them to apply to the Bey or to the French government, as he himself did not intend to pay them a single piastre. Our consul-general was now obliged to interfere, but as Mr. T—— still refused satisfying the poor men who had lost their time and property, he was forbidden to leave the country till he had done so. The Bey subsequently indemnified the fishermen, though he was not bound to do so, and repaid to the company the fifty thousand piastres forming the purchase-money, and also what he had received for the *teskerehs*. With these sums Mr. T—— returned to England, and

the coral fishery was abandoned.—The disputed ground was that which extends from the Wady Zaine to the Wad el Erk on the west, a length of coast of about twelve miles, and richer in coral than any other part of the regency. The Bey of Tunis claims as far as the Wad el Erk, and proves his right by the known fact of his having always collected tribute up to its right bank, but on what grounds the French support their claims to the Wady Zaine I have never been able to learn; they are, however, extremely anxious to maintain it, and have also done all in their power to obtain possession of the island of Tabarca, as will appear by the treaty which the Polignac ministry endeavoured, in August 1830, to force on the Bey, after the capture of Algiers. In the fifth article of this treaty, but to which the Bey positively refused to accede, it was stated that "the Bey of Tunis restores to France the right of fishing exclusively for coral, from the limits of the French possessions as far as Cape Negro, on the same footing as she held it before the war of 1799.

France shall pay no equivalent for the enjoyment of this right. Her former possessions, edifices, and different buildings and constructions in the island of Tabarca shall also be restored to her;" and again, by the third section of the first article of the treaty, entered into in December of the same year, between General Clauzel on the part of France, and Sidi Mustafa, keeper of the seals, on the part of the Bey of Tunis, it was stipulated that "an asylum shall be granted without any expenses whatever by the government of Tunis, in the island of Tabarca, to French vessels of the coral fishery and others."

This article was also decidedly rejected by the Bey, and the English government protested likewise against these two conditions, as well as against the fourth section of the first article of the latter treaty, by which it was agreed that French vessels in the ports of the Beylek of Constantina, should only pay half the duties imposed on the vessels of other nations.

By the last treaty, in order to bribe the Tuniseen government, it was agreed that the Bey's

brother, Sidi Mustafa, should be appointed Bey of the beylek of Constantina, and by one of the articles of a subsequent treaty, (Feb. 6, 1831,) Ahmed Bey, a member of the reigning dynasty, was nominated Bey of the province of Oran, on condition of each paying yearly to France one million of francs. It is difficult to understand what was meant by saying, that Tabarca formerly belonged to France, and should now be restored to her, for she certainly never possessed it.

Tabarca * was ceded, in the sixteenth century, to the Genoese family of the Lomellini, in ransom of one of the Tuniseen chiefs who had been taken prisoner; but, in 1740, it was retaken by one of the Beys, and the inhabitants retired to the island of San Pietro, off the coast

* Tabarca is often mentioned by ancient writers; as, for example, by Silius Italicus, who says:

"Tabraca, tum Tyrium vulgus, Sarranaque Leptis;"

and by Juvenal, in his tenth Satire:

"Qualis umbriferos ubi pandit Tabraca saltus."

These woods have now, however, vanished.

of Sardinia, from whence, to the number of one thousand, they were brought away by Hammooda Basha, and taken to Tunis, where they are still known by the name of Tabarkeens, many of whom have embraced Muhammedanism. Tabarca has ever since been in the possession of Tunis, which state formerly also held a great part of the regency of Algiers, namely, the province and town of Boujeah, and Constantina itself, which was generally governed by the eldest son of the sovereign of Tunis.

The best places for finding coral off the Tuniseen coasts, are

Five to six miles off Cape Bon, in from forty to ninety fathom;

Seven to eight miles off the islands of Jalta, in sixty to eighty fathom;

One mile off the Fratelli rocks, in fifty-five fathom;

Four to six miles off Ras el Abeadh, in fifty-five fathom;

Six to seven miles off Cape Negro, in sixty fathom;

Ten to twelve miles off Tabarca, in seventy-five fathom.

To the south-east of Tunis is a large dismal burial-ground, whose turbehs and smaller tombs are mostly in ruins; but at no time are these

spots to be compared to the beautiful ones of Stamboul, Scutari, or others in Turkey; the tombs themselves presenting none of those graceful forms which are there seen peeping through extensive and silent forests of magnificent cypresses, the growth of ages. Not a tree of any kind adorns the last home of the Moors. This cemetery is bounded with a chain of heights, the summit of which nearest the lake, is crowned by the sanctuary of Sidi Ali be'l Hassan; the centre by the burj Alí Rais, built above some ancient, extensive, and picturesque quarries; to the right, and separated from the fort by a narrow valley, through which winds the road to Zaghwan, are the tombs of Lilla Aysha Manoobeah, and of Lalelah, or Leid el Leilah, two female saints, as well as princesses. The softer sex does not appear to have furnished many similar holy personages; for I believe these are the only ones known in the regency, at least I certainly never heard any others spoken of. Many beautiful views are obtained from different parts of these heights.

During Shaban, the month which precedes Ramadhan, may daily be seen outside the Bab el Baheri, wrestling matches between the Goorshejis, a body of strong athletic Turks who are kept in pay by the Basha to amuse him during the long dull hours of the Muhammedan Lent. A month before this time, these men commence training and exercising themselves: with the exception of breeches made of very thick leather, they are perfectly naked, and their bodies are copiously covered with oil. I never remember having seen even among our prize-fighters such powerful and iron frames, or greater feats of muscular strength and activity than these men displayed, and which vividly called to mind the beautiful group in the Tribune at Florence. The games are carried on under the direction of a Bash-Pehlewan, and the final victor receives from the Bey a reward of two thousand piastres. Lives are occasionally lost in these amusements.

Another very interesting spectacle is the fête given on the occasion of an Arab marriage;

this consists of equestrian games. A good level piece of ground is selected, sometimes under the town walls, at others close to the Bardo. The tournament field is oblong, and bordered by rows of spectators, who form its boundaries by sitting cross-legged round the open space. The best riders of the tribe, mounted on the most active horses, are then introduced into the arena, the men being clothed with as much splendour as their means will permit them, while the chargers are covered with large silk housings of different colours, reaching to the ground, and resembling those of ancient knights, as represented in Froissart. Some of the Arabs then commence making their horses dance to the sound of drums and trumpets, whilst men on foot occasionally rush forward and discharge their muskets close to the horses' ears. Others dash forward at full speed along the line of seated spectators, as close to their feet as they possibly can, without actually trampling upon them; and every now and then suddenly throwing their horses on their haunches, spin them

round on their hind legs, and resume in the opposite direction their wild career. It is a nervous sight to behold, for you momentarily expect to see some person or child crushed beneath the horses' hoofs; but no accident ever happens, and men, women, and children, maintain their seats with the greatest calmness and feeling of security, saluting any well-executed point of horsemanship with loud and exulting shouts of approbation, whilst the women accompany them with the usual but indescribable cries of the quick-repeated lu-lu-lu-lu; in return for which they are covered with clouds of sand and dust, which the impetuous coursers throw up behind them. Three or four others, dashing their sharp stirrups into the flanks of their impatient steeds, rush madly along the length of the arena, shouting forth their *tekbir*, or war-cries, and whirling round their heads the long and silver-adorned Arab guns, which they discharge at the spectators when they have reached the farthest extremity of the lists. Others engage with swords soldiers on foot, galloping round their adversaries in incredibly

small circles, twisting their horses suddenly round, and then circling to the other hand; and I know not which most to admire, the activity and suppleness of the rider or of his horse. Others, whilst at full speed, will lean over, and without in the least reducing their pace, pick up from the ground a piastre or any other equally small object, thrown down for the purpose. These sports form on the whole one of the gayest and most animated scenes I ever beheld, increased as it is by the waving of many silken sanjaks of the brightest colours, by the music, the report of fire arms, the war-cries of the performers, and the shouts of the spectators. As neither our men nor our horses possess the suppleness and quickness of motion which these wild sons of the desert have acquired, I should much fear for the result of a single combat between them; but acting *en masse*, I feel confident that a squadron of English hussars would easily drive before them a force of Bedouins ten times greater in number: in fact, these Africans

have not the remotest idea of a compact and regular charge.

The population of the regency of Tunis has been estimated at 2,500,000; namely, Turks, 7,000; Moors and Arabs, 2,386,000; Christians, 7,000; Renegades, 112,000; Jews, 100,000; but I should doubt whether it now amounts to so great a number; judging at least from the vast tracts of desert land which are met with in the interior, I should be induced to state it at only about 2,000,000. Not more than half a century back, it however reached to 5,000,000; but the dreadful plague which raged soon after, and the one which continued without intermission during the years 1818, 19, and 20, added also to several periods of scarcity, especially the great famine in 1805, have reduced that number by more than one-half.

From the great number of ancient towns, whose ruins are seen scattered over the face of the whole country, but which now stand in the midst of vast solitudes, tenanted solely by the lion, the wolf, and the hyæna—from the known

fertility of the soil, a fertility whose effects at present appear to be beyond the power of nature to produce; from the immense armies which were maintained by the former lords of the land, and from the strong and numerous colonies sent forth to extend on foreign and conquered shores the empire and power of the mother country, I should not hesitate in saying that during the height of its former prosperity, this fair realm supported a population of 12,000,000 of inhabitants; a number, which under a good government, assisted by laborious, active, and enterprising subjects, might in a few short years be re-established, and maintained in prosperity and affluence. At present agriculture may be said to be entirely neglected and abandoned, no person daring to cultivate more ground than is sufficient to supply his own immediate wants, and to pay his taxes to government. During the time of the Romans, part of this rich domain was called, from its extraordinary fertility, the Emporium; and vast quantities of grain were exported to different and less favoured

parts of the world; and even in not very remote years, many were the cargoes shipped off to foreign ports: but at this day corn is actually imported into the Tuniseen territories, so discouraging and blighting in their effects have been the measures of government. The manner of collecting the duties will in itself exemplify this point. The collector goes into a field whilst the crop is still young and green, and values it according to his caprice or desire of gain,—of course carefully avoiding to estimate it under its real value; the owner is then obliged to pay a tithe on this supposed value of his future crop, though when the harvest-time has arrived, he finds that it perhaps does not exceed the fourth part of the sum at which it was estimated. The same is the case with the olives, in which consist the principal resources of the country; and these, moreover, are not allowed to be gathered till an order to that effect has been received; the consequence of which is, that from the great delay which often takes place in sending it, the fruit falls and rots

on the ground, the owner not being permitted to pick it up; he is also obliged to send his olives, when they have finally been collected, to mills established by the Bey, who derives therefrom a considerable profit.

All provisions entering Tunis pay a duty of one-fourth of their value, before they can be exposed for sale in the market; and, as if this were not sufficient, the Bey's twelve cooks, in their state dresses, parade the markets every morning, and seize whatever is required for the day's consumption at the Bardo.

The chief exports from Tunis were grain, oil, live cattle, hides, wool, wax, honey, madder, red caps, Jerbeh shawls, &c. senna, soap, sponges, cotton, ostrich feathers, orchilla weed, barilla, and coral; but many of these were in such small quantities as scarcely to deserve being noticed, and others have ceased entirely.

The race of horses, from similar destructive measures, has become greatly deteriorated; for who can feel disposed to pay attention to the breed, when he knows that as soon as his care

and attention have made him the owner of a valuable animal, it will instantly be seized from him by the Bey's agents? The French had sent to Tunis an officer to purchase horses for their cavalry, but after a residence of six months in the country, he could only procure about three hundred; and he told me that he had, during that time, scarcely seen a single horse of any great value.—The cattle are small, but good, and considerable numbers are sent over to Malta. Some of the breeds of sheep are very fine, and all possess the enormous and fat tail, which forms the characteristic of most of the African breeds. The famous Merinos of Spain were originally introduced from Barbary. Shaw mentions having seen an animal bred between the ass and the cow, called the kumrah, which he thus describes. "That which I saw, and which was not looked upon as a rarity, was single-hoofed like the ass, but distinguished from it, in having a sleeker skin, with the tail and the head (though without horns) in fashion of the dams." I made diligent researches after

this animal, but never succeeded in seeing any of them; though some Arabs told me that a very few did exist, and that they were known by the name of Berdoor برضور I have also heard that this race of mules is sometimes found in northern Italy.

At the Bardo was a curious little animal which died but a short time before I quitted Tunis; the fore part of whose body resembled the ass, whilst the hinder was like the deer's.* The whole country abounds with a variety of game—partridges, rhaads or *poules de Carthage*, hoobarahs, hares, gazelles, wild boars, and the bukr-el wash, or red deer. Wild beasts are also numerous: lions, leopards, panthers, hyænas, wolves, and foxes, are often met with.

The Moors of Tunis are generally a quiet, well-behaved race; but many of the Arab tribes are wild, lawless, and sanguinary. But on the whole, the population of this king-

* Leo Africanus mentions having rode on an animal called Adimmain, which he describes to be a tame beast, shaped like a ram, and of the stature of an ass, and having long and dangle ears.

dom may be said to be the most civilized of any of the states of Barbary; though, in negociations with the Tuniseens, as well as with the neighbouring powers of northern Africa, measures of kindness and conciliation should not be resorted to, as they are always supposed to originate from fear and weakness.

Commodore Decatur, during the short war which existed in 1815 between America and these powers, seems to have formed a very just estimate of their character in this respect, and of the line of conduct to be pursued towards them, as will appear from the following extract from one of his despatches. "During the progress of our negociations with the states of Barbary, now brought to a conclusion, there has appeared a disposition on the part of each of them, to grant, as far as we were in a situation to demand. Any attempt to conciliate them, except through the influence of their fears, I should expect to be vain." Acting in this spirit, he immediately obtained what he sought.

In writing to the Tuniseen government, who had permitted two prizes, made by an American privateer, to be taken out of the harbour by a British cruizer, and had also suffered a company of merchants, subjects of Tunis, to seize the property of an American citizen, at their own price, and much below its real value, he says, "In consequence of this information, as soon as I had obtained justice from Algiers for her aggressions, I hastened to this port with the power and the disposition to exact from the regency an observance of our treaty. I now require an immediate restitution of the property, or its value. Your Excellency will perceive the necessity of the earliest attention to this communication, and of making known to me the decision of his Excellency the Bey with the least possible delay."

The fifty-six thousand dollars demanded were immediately paid to him, as were also twenty-five thousand dollars by the Tripoleens, who had permitted two American vessels to be taken from under the guns of their forts by a

British sloop of war, and had refused protection to an American cruizer lying within their jurisdiction.

Sometimes, however, the European powers pursue this system too far, and greatly irritate the Moors by demanding rights, privileges, and exemptions from duties to an unwarrantable extent and on points where it would be ruin to concede them. They also, for every trifling little irregularity, or slight deviation from even the most insignificant parts of a treaty, immediately threaten bombardment and extermination. The little Italian states of Naples and Sardinia have lately been following this system; till the Bey at last, losing all patience, has taken up arms, and told them to do their worst. This was not certainly the answer either expected or desired, and they are at some loss how to act; for, unfortunately for themselves, they cannot, like the French, throw on the African shores a brave and powerful army of fifty thousand men, to overrun and conquer the country.

With regard to the military and naval forces of the regency, a very few words will suffice. The army consisted in 1832, according to the best information I could obtain, of about fifty thousand men—namely,

	Men.
Nizam jedeed, or regular infantry, two regiments of two battalions each	2,000
Regular artillery and engineers	320
Turkish troops, infantry	3,000
Zouaves, infantry	2,000
Sbahis, or paid cavalry, four regiments	2,000
Mamlooks, or body-guard	300
Contingents furnished by the different Arab tribes in the regency, chiefly cavalry	40,000
Total	49,620

The men incorporated in the four battalions of Nizam jedeed are chiefly taken from the territory called the Aard, of which the Saheb-el-taba is Kaeed, and which includes all that part of the maritime country to the south of the Sahul, which district has also furnished several of its men. The troops were originally raised at the commencement of 1831, and were drilled and

organized by Colonel Guy, a French officer of engineers. They are at present commanded by Selim Agha, an intelligent young man. Their uniform is precisely the same as that worn by the Turkish soldiers on the first introduction of the European system, consisting of a blue jacket, with red collars and cuffs for the first regiment, and green for the second; the overalls are also blue, and very full to the knee, from which to the ancles they fit tight.* The arms and appointments are entirely European. Their headdress consists of a shasheah without the turban. They were originally quartered in the town of Tunis; but their conduct was so insubordinate and lawless, that they were afterwards removed to the Muhammedeah, about six miles from the capital—though, whenever they obtain short leaves of absence, they come to Tunis, and there commit the greatest excesses. As examples of this, I shall mention three instances which occurred, to my certain knowledge, in the course

* In summer, for this dress is substituted one of white light canvas, bearing the distinctive facings.

of a single morning, and at one of which I was present. One of these men seized one of Sir Thomas Reade's donkeys, which was returning from market, laden with provisions. Another, having conceived an affection for a Jew's cloak, coolly proceeded to take possession of it in the open and crowded street, and afterwards pounded the Hebrew's head with a large stone, because he had presumed to remonstrate. A third, having observed a Moor retiring from the market with twenty-five piastres, the produce of the fruit and vegetables he had that morning sold, asked him for the money; which being refused, the soldier drew his knife, and stabbed the man through the neck, of which wound he immediately died, and the Nizam quickly carried off the money, perfectly unmolested by the numerous bystanders. The two first, however, received the bastinado, and the last lost his head.—Early in the present spring most of them were marched down to different parts of the coast, to defend it against the expected attacks of the Sardinians. One battalion was quartered at the Goletta,

where, under the immediate eye of the Saheb-el-taba and Selim, they behaved remarkably well, no complaint whatever having been brought against them. They manœuvre with tolerable precision, but are horridly set up.

The artillery and engineers, who were at first commanded and disciplined by Captain Lugan, a French officer, were composed as follows:

	Off.	N.C.O.	Priv.
One Company of Artillery	2	16	102
One of Engineers	2	16	107
Train	1	12	62
Total	6	44	271

The matériel of the artillery is as follows:

	Guns, No. of.	Weight of Metal.	Howitzers, No. of.	Weight of Metal.
Field Artillery	2	4	2	12
Artillery of Position	1	12	2	24
	3	8		
Ditto of Siege	2	12	—	—
	2	16		
Mountain Artillery	6	8	—	—
	16		4	

A European military band has been established under the superintendence of M. Laurent, who has taught his pupils, all young Moors or Arabs, to play very correctly and together, and, what is really surprising, both the instructor and the *élèves* are perfectly ignorant of each other's language.

The corps of Turks do garrison duty in the principal forts, such as El Kaf, Ghafsa, &c. Few of them were born in Turkey, being descendants of those troops which used to be sent over to Barbary, when it was more immediately subject to the Porte: however, a few recruits are occasionally brought over from Anadoly. The rest are Kool-Oghlus, or sons of Turks by Moorish women.

The Zouaves are natives of the inland parts of the regency of Algiers, and may be called the Swiss of Africa, serving any power which will pay them, as we may see exemplified at Algiers, where many of them are fighting under the French colours.

The Sbahis are the regular cavalry of the

state, and are composed of both Moors and Arabs. Under their bernoos and sefsar, they wear the regular embroidered Moorish dress, and have Morocco boots, reaching to the knee, and armed at the heel with spurs, or rather strong spikes of iron, about five inches long. They all receive pay.

The Arab contingents are furnished by different tribes of Bedoueens, who, in return, are exempt from the payment of many taxes and contributions; they are merely dressed in sefsars and bernooses, and are armed with the long Arab gun. This is the wild cavalry for which Numidia was formerly famous; but they are no longer "*infrœni*," or without saddles, possessing, like the Moors, the Turkish sharp bit, ("*hispatis temperat ora frœnis*,") and the high-backed, high-pommelled saddle, with shovel-stirrups, which act as spurs—a most decided improvement upon the ancient system of equitation of the Numidians, thus described by Lucan:

> . . . . quæ nudo residens Massylia dorso,
> Ora levi flectit frenorum nescia virgâ.

Without saddles or bridles, their manœuvres could not have been very correct, nor their charges effective; though we read that the Romans, on one occasion, when they wished to make a most irresistible charge, threw away their bridles before they commenced it. Those of the present day manage and twist their horses about when at full speed, with the greatest ease and dexterity.

The Mamlooks are all renégades.* They are not enlisted in the corps until they are well acquainted with the management of horses and arms, and know all the roads and passes in the regency. Their former splendid uniforms have been exchanged for the unbecoming one of the Nizam jedeed: the dress is black, with *pistache* facing.

To this corps we may add the Hampas, or Gens d'armes, who are chiefly Turks; they are quartered mostly at the Bardo, and have great power. Their uniform is black, with orange facings.

* They are chiefly Neapolitans, Sicilians, and Sardinians: only one was English.

There are five very large and handsome barracks in Tunis, built by Hammooda Pasha; and the present Bey is building a superb one, capable of containing nearly five thousand men.

The pay of the soldiers is one karoob a day, and at the end of every three years' service they receive an additional asper, so that after having served eighteen years, they are in the monthly receipt of about five shillings and fourpence. They also receive rations of barley, bread, and olives; formerly, and even now *sometimes*, a sheep is also given twice a week to every fourteen men, besides a trifling allowance of coffee and tobacco.* Both the Mamlooks and Hampas

* The Mamlooks' pay is twenty-two aspers per day, with rations, and cloth for their uniforms, which they make up at their own expense; they have, besides, several perquisites, and when with the camp they receive an addition to their pay. Soldiers, when sent on detachment, ride up to a village or *douwar* about two hours after mid-day, and demand billets; the people then offer them money not to stop, but to go on to the next inhabited place; the soldier accepts the money and rides on; and if he is fortunate, in passing through a well inhabited country, he may repeat this three or four times before

have frequent opportunities of gaining considerable sums of money; for whenever they are sent into the interior to arrest any person and bring him to the Bardo, they make their prisoner purchase good treatment from them at a very high price. My Mamlook told me he had once received from one man a thousand piastres, or about forty-six pounds: if their prisoners will not open their purses, they are made to suffer a number of little vexations, such as marching on foot with the hands tightly bound to the stirrups, the Mamlook occasionally putting his horse to a gallop—sleeping in the open air—receiving only a small portion of bad food —and on one occasion my friend told me, that during the great heats of the day, when they halted for two or three hours, he used to picket his prisoner with his back to the ground, and

sun-set, when he finally dismounts, and finds himself much richer than in the morning. This corresponds in its effects to the teeth-money system of the Turks, whose soldiers make their hosts pay a certain sum in compensation for the wear and tear, which theirs and their horses' teeth have suffered in masticating the provisions set before them.

the face turned up to the sun, and well smeared with honey or date paste to attract the flies: this and other similar little expedients at last made the poor man count out his money, when a horse was immediately seized for his use, and he entered the gates of the Bardo more like a powerful chief at the head of his suite than as a prisoner.

It must not be supposed that these fifty thousand men compose a standing army, for we must deduct the whole of the forty thousand Bedoueens, who are only called out to accompany the periodical camps, or to serve against the enemy; and as the same may be said of part of the other troops, I should be inclined to calculate the standing army at only about six thousand men. According to a treaty signed on the 18th of December, 1830, between the Bey and Marshal Clauzel, Sidi Mustafa, the Bey's brother, was appointed Bey of the province of Constantina, subject to the condition of paying yearly to France one million of francs; but as it was necessary first to conquer the

country, an army was assembled for that purpose under the orders of the Saheb-el-taba and Colonel Guy. It was composed as follows:

	MEN.
Nizam jedeed	1,000
Turks	2,000
Zouaves	1,500
Sbahis	1,500
Bedoueens	20,000
Artillery	320
Total	26,320

But as this treaty was never ratified by the French government, the army was soon after disbanded.

The once powerful and dreaded navy of Tunis is now reduced to a mere shadow, and a fatality seems to hang over it, which appears likely to prevent its again attaining any degree of consequence. During the dreadful gales which, in the beginning of August 1831, raged for three successive days, three frigates, three corvettes, one xebek, one brig, and one schooner, were driven on shore near Hammam 'l Enf, and entirely destroyed; this disaster being also ac-

companied with the loss of two thousand lives. One of the corvettes was moored inside the canal, a place apparently of the greatest security, but her evil destinies succeeded in forcing her out. Another corvette, after having gone on shore, was with great exertions got off, repaired, and on the point of sailing, when another gale effectually wrecked her. At Navarin the Bey had three frigates, two brigs, and one schooner, but which took no part in the action; and moreover the allied commanders notified to the Tuniseen Admiral, that if he would remain neuter, not a single shot should be fired against his ships; but notwithstanding this, from some unaccountable and unexplained cause, he ran them all on shore and burnt them, for which conduct the Bey has promised to cut off his head, if ever he gets him into his power.—It will thus be seen that in six years, by these two misfortunes alone, six frigates, three corvettes, three brigs, one xebek, and two schooners, in all fifteen sail, were lost to the Tuniseens; a very considerable loss, when we consider the

smallness of the state; indeed, so greatly has their naval force been reduced, that during the war between the Porte and Russia in 1829, the Bey could only send to the assistance of the Sultan one corvette, three brigs, and one schooner.

The naval force consists at present (1st January, 1833) of

	GUNS.
1 frigate	46
1 corvette	22
1 brig	18
1 "	14
1 "	12
1 schooner	14
1 "	12
1 "	10
30 gun-boats	

The frigate was originally built as a twenty-four gun corvette; but an upper deck, on which were placed twenty-two guns, was afterwards added. The corvette, which has been detained by the Turks, is the only ship now in commission as a man-of-war; two of the brigs are employed by the Bey as merchantmen, and only twelve of the gun-boats are serviceable.—The

dock-yard and basin were constructed by Hammooda Pasha, and are now under the direction of Monsieur Gaspari, who is also chief constructor or builder. In the spring of this year, several gun-boats and two frigates were ordered to be built.

The Tuniseens have always fought very well at sea: without going back to the days of their greatest power, I shall content myself with mentioning one instance of this which occurred not many years ago. A small schooner of ten guns, belonging to the kiayah of the Goletta, was cruizing off Civita Vecchia, when she fell in with two Papal frigates, one mounting thirty-six guns, and the other twenty-eight; against these she maintained a gallant action, which only ceased, after seven hours and a half fighting, by her going down with her colours still flying; the surviving part of her crew were picked up by the enemy and made slaves, being obliged to work in chains for three years upon the fortifications and arsenals of Civita Vecchia—and this in a country go-

verned by the Father of the Christian religion, and who, in common with all other European nations, has lavished on the Barbary powers the deepest curses and abuses for thus treating their prisoners.

Slavery was entirely abolished in 1830, both at Tunis and Tripoli; that is to say, that Christian prisoners are never in future to be considered as slaves. The ransom of a slave was fixed at three hundred Venetian sequins, after the liberation of Prince ——— from slavery, for which he had promised to pay the considerable sum of three hundred thousand dollars; but as the engagement was never fulfilled, there is no reason to complain. The case was as follows. In 1798, this Neapolitan nobleman was proceeding from Naples to Palermo, in a vessel he had freighted with a great quantity of valuable property, when he was captured by a Tuniseen cruizer. After remaining two years in captivity, he ransomed himself by giving a bond for three hundred thousand dollars. On returning to his country he made

some arrangement with his government, by which the latter took upon itself the payment of the debt; but so many years rolled on without its being cancelled, that it had increased, from arrears of interest, I suppose, to three hundred and eighty-five thousand dollars. At last, through the exertions and applications of Sir Thomas Reade, the Bey, with great generosity, called for the bond and tore it up. To reward our Consul-General for this service, the King of Naples offered him, through our minister at Naples, the cross of St. Constantine, which being one of the least distinguished in all Europe, was naturally refused by our minister, when, after some difficulty, the decoration of commander of the order of Francesco I. was sent; but the family of ——— have never even expressed their thanks.

The state of the negro slaves is far from pitiable, for they are always well treated, and in many instances receive from their master a good education. It is also often the custom to give them their liberty at the expiration of seven years'

service; but in several cases that have come to my knowledge, the slaves have refused to accept their freedom, knowing they could not be happier than in their present situation.—These slaves are brought to the market either by the way of Tripoli, or sometimes direct from Ghadamz, and the trade is chiefly in the hands of Tripoleens, for the Tuniseens seldom send any caravans into the interior; but the negroes occasionally, perhaps about twice a year, come to Tozer, to dispose of the produce of their country.

The gunpowder with which the army and navy are supplied, and in fact the only powder that is allowed to be used within the state, is made in the Kazbah of Tunis, under the direction of a Frenchman who has obtained the monopoly from the Bey. To protect this manufactory, the importation of foreign gunpowder is strictly prohibited—contrary, it appears to me, to an article in one of our treaties with Tunis, in which it is specified that we are permitted to introduce into her ports both arms and warlike stores. The nitre is collected in

great quantities in different parts of the Jereed. Most of the Bedoueens of the interior, make, *tant bien que mal*, their own gunpowder; but few know how to grain it properly, and many never even attempt to do so, leaving it in fine powder; notwithstanding which it is nearly as strong and as good as what is made at Tunis. A small quantity of English powder is the most acceptable present that can be made, even to the greatest men; and it is really amusing to see their looks of astonishment and admiration, when they behold the fineness of the grain, and the small quantity which is required to carry a ball to a much greater distance than theirs can ever do; for when loading with their own, they measure it by a handfull for each charge, so little strength does it possess.

CHAPTER VII.

The Bagrada—Enormous Serpents—The Thaiban—Castra Cornelia—Utica—Sketch of its History—Existing Remains—Ghar-el-Milah—Alluvial Formations—Its Ancient Port—Capes Pulchrum, Candidum, and Apollinis—Benzart.

On the 5th of November I started for Utica, Ghar-el-Milah, and Benzart, the party mounted on horses lent to me by Sidi Muhammed Ben Ayad. The one I rode was a beautiful creature, and its appointments extremely rich, the saddle being covered with crimson velvet, highly ornamented with gold embroidery; the bridle, which, according to the fashion of Tunis, had winkers, was covered with gold patterns, relieved, like the breast-plate, by large solid ornaments of silver, of which metal was also the collar chain.

We ascended the heights of the Belvedere, passing through plantations of olives; and then descended over an uncultivated country to Sebalah, a pretty country-house built by Yusuf Zaheb-el-taba, under Hammooda Pasha, where I afterwards spent two days, during another excursion to Utica. It at present belongs to Sidi Mustafa, the Bey's brother, who lent it to me; and derives its name from a large public fountain attached to it, which in Arabic is called سبالة.

From this place commences an extensive and level plain, parts of which evidently appear to have been wrested from the sea; and winding through it can still be traced two of the former beds of the *Bagrada*, the present Majerdah, مجردة, which river we reached in an hour and a half after leaving Sebalah. The Majerdah is formed by the junction of the waters of the Wady Serrat, which rise in that part of the Chain of Atlas called Jebel Nemamsha, جبل نمامشة, in latitude thirty-five degrees north, and those of the Wady Khamees, which spring forth a little way to the south-west of

Tiffesh, *Tipasa*. This latter stream appears to have been considered by the ancients as the commencement of the Bagrada, at least according to Ptolemy's statement of the latitude and longitude of its source, which was called *Fons Potamianus*, and was situated at the base of the *Mampsarus Mons*. It flows in a deep bed worn through a light sandy soil, and is constantly changing its direction, when its waters are high and rapid. When I crossed, it measured in depth about five or six feet of extremely muddy water, which flowed lazily along, at the rate of a mile an hour. It answers perfectly to the description of Lucan:*

* It may be thought superfluous, and perhaps pedantic, to insert so many quotations, when a simple reference to the different authors would be sufficient; and this is certainly the case as far as applies to the reader who is comfortably seated in his library, surrounded by all the books he is referred to—but the generality of travellers do not carry libraries about with them, and most certainly those who *ride* through Moslem regions do not. A simple reference, to them, is therefore perfectly useless—whereas the actual quotation read on the spot to which it alludes, adds greatly to the interest derived from the view of any particular place.

. . . . quà se
Bagrada lentus agit siccæ sulcator arenæ;

and to that also of Silius Italicus:—

Turbidus arentes lento pede, sulcat arenas,
Bagrada. . . . .

Statius thus mentions it:—

Qualis Cyniphius tacente ripa
Pœnos Bagrada serpit inter agros.

The banks of the Bagrada were witnesses to the well-known combat between the forces of Attilius Regulus and an enormous serpent, in 225, B. C. — a serpent which, according to Pliny, measured one hundred and twenty feet in length. The reptile was probably the Hæmorrhois mentioned by Lucan:—

Squamiferos *ingens* Hæmorrhois explicat orbes.

And again,—

Impressit dentes Hæmorrhois aspera Tullo
Magnanimo juveni.

This enormous race of serpents, if it ever existed, is now entirely extinct; the largest

existing species, the Thaiban, has never been known to exceed twelve feet, and is generally but nine feet long. From the similarity of the names, I should be inclined to think that the Thaiban is the same with the "*parvis tinctus maculis Thebanus ophites*" of Lucan. Thaaban, ثعبان is, however, nothing more than the general Arabic name for a serpent; but it may have been given *par excellence*, to this particular species on account of its superior size. Though no traces remain at the present day of any race of serpents capable of making front against a powerful Roman army, yet it would appear that something of the sort existed in the time when Leo Africanus wrote his book, that is, if I am not mistaken, in 1520. In the English translation the word "dragon" is mentioned, but probably in the original Arabic copy, which I have not seen, it may have been "serpent." He says, "In the caves of Atlas are found many huge and monstrous dragons, which are heavie, and of a slowe motion, because the midst of their body is

grosse, but their necks and tailes are slender. They are most venomous creatures, insomuch that whoever is bitten or touched by them, his flesh presently waxeth soft and weake, neither can he by any means escape death." But we have already said too much on so absurd a story, as that of a serpent keeping in check for a considerable time a whole Roman army.

We crossed the river in a horse-boat, but a little below is a handsome, though unfinished stone bridge, the materials of which were taken from the ruins of Utica: it would, however, be an useless expenditure of money to complete this bridge; for there is every appearance that the river will shortly force its way through the sand hills which now form its right bank, at the elbow, or turn just above the present ferry, and it will then again flow through the plain above mentioned. It is probable that a bridge existed at this place many years ago, as it has long borne the name of Kanterah, قنطرة, "the bridge;" and in fact there are still seen a few traces of the existence of one on the left bank.

In crossing this river some time after, the water was still lower, and the descent of the banks still more abrupt: so much so, indeed, that the horses could not bear up against the weight of the carriage, and, missing the boat, rolled altogether into the stream, from which we had some difficulty in dragging them out. At the extremity of the range of sand hills on the right is the small village of Ghellah, occupying the site of the *Castra Cornelia*, a name, which in the second Punic war superseded the one by which these heights were before known.

> Sed majorâ dedit cognomina collibus istis
> Scipio.
>
> LUCAN.

In an hour from the ferry we reached the ruins of *Utica*, now called Boo-Shater, ابوشاتر, "the father of talent, or ability."—Does this modern name contain any reference to the talented Cato?—The two little marabets of Sidi Burj Haleel, and of Sidi Etkoori, which occupy the crest of the heights of Utica, can be seen from a great distance, and are good

land-marks to direct the traveller to the ruins.

Utica was founded by a colony of Syrians, as far back as 1159 before the Christian era, consequently two hundred and eighty-five years before Carthage, and twenty-five years after the destruction of Troy. In 310 B. C. it was taken by Agathocles. In 212, the surrounding country was ravaged by T. Otacilius, who came over from Sicily with eighty quinqueremes, and succeeded also in cutting out from the harbour a considerable number of transports. The country was again laid waste in 210, by M. Valerius Messala; and three years after, by Valerius Lævinus.

In 204, Scipio, who had landed at the *Pulchrum promont.*, (the present Ras Sidi Booshusha, or Cape Zibeeb of the charts,) devastated the country, taking possession of "a large and wealthy town," the name of which is not given, but which I imagine to have been the present Aleah, formerly *Cotuza;* and then ordering his fleet to blockade the harbour of Utica, occupied with his army those heights which from

the west overlook the town. Asdrubal, with a Carthaginian corps, and Syphax, with his Numidians, encamped near the Romans, probably on the same heights, but between the enemy and Utica. The Romans shortly after broke up the siege and retired to winter quarters on the long and narrow ridge to the right of the Majerdah; though at that period, as we learn from Ptolemy, this river flowed to the right of these heights. The legions were in the centre of the ridge, the cavalry in the plain to the rear towards Sebalah, the ships drawn on shore, and the sailors encamped in a position facing the north. In the following year, Scipio, and Masinissa, the traitor to his country, succeeded in burning the Carthaginian and Numidian camps, when Asdrubal retired to the nearest city, probably *Ad Gallum* or *Cigisa*, and Syphax to a fortified post, eight miles distant from Utica, a little to the west of Sebalah, towards Sidi Saad. Soon after, he was defeated in "the great plains" between these hills and the Majerdah.

It was in the camp at Ghellah that Sopho-

nisba, during this year, received from her husband Masinissa the poisoned bowl. A painting representing this episode of the war has been discovered at Pompeii, in which Scipio is introduced; and as his face perfectly resembles all his busts, especially the bronze one in the Studj at Naples, we may presume that those both of Masinissa and of Sophonisba are also correct portraits. The queen is represented with all the *embonpoint* and characteristic features of the Moorish women of the present day.

Scipio afterwards took Tunis, which may perhaps be considered an imprudent measure, as the Carthaginians, by sending from their capital even small detachments, might easily have cut off his communication with the camp and dépôts of Ghellah; but though it does not appear that they availed themselves of this opportunity of harassing the enemy, they however sent a fleet to destroy the Roman blockading force off Utica, and had they been a little less dilatory in their movements, success

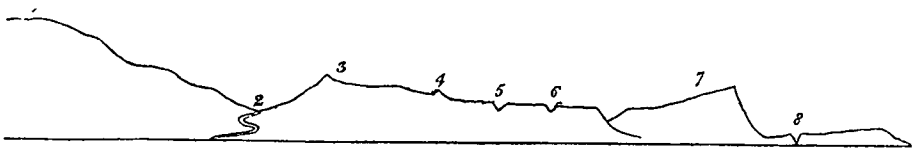
would have undoubtedly crowned the expedition, when the Roman army must have eventually surrendered.

In 146 after the fall of Carthage, Utica was made the capital, according to Strabo, of the Roman dominions in Africa, all the lands between Benzart and Carthage being placed under its immediate sovereignty.

Within the walls of Utica, Cato in 40 B. C., unable to escape from Cæsar, put an end to his days.

Mela, in describing Utica and Carthage, says, — " Ambæ inclytæ, ambæ à Phœnicibus conditæ: illa fato Catonis insignis, hæc suo." Utica was, after Carthage, the largest town in Africa, so at least Appian tells us:— Ιτύκη δὲ Λιβύης μεγίστη μετὰ Καρχηδόνα πόλις. The ancients do not seem to have been very correct about distances; for whilst Appian states that there were sixty stadia between Carthage and Utica, Aristotle increases the number to two hundred.

OUTLINE OF THE POSITION OF UTICA FROM THE SOUTH.



1. Roman Camp.
2. Road to Benzart.
3. African Camp.
4. Aqueduct, and huts of Boo-Shater.
5. Amphitheatre.
6. Marabets.
7. Citadel.
8. Canal.

The remains of Utica occupy a long tongue of land, which, lofty to the west, sinks gradually down, and mingles with the plain on the east. This point must formerly have been a cape; for the sea came up beyond it, especially on the north, where it formed the harbour; and this part of the plain is still marshy, and even at times quite impassable. But where once stood the ancient and the powerful Utica, nothing but a few miserable huts, known by the name of Boo-Shater, and the two above-mentioned marabets, are to be seen—at least no other buildings of modern times, for a few of its ancient ruins are still extant. The principal of these consist of an aqueduct, cisterns, an amphitheatre, and some shapeless masses of masonry. The aqueduct brought water from the western heights, and, after filling the cisterns, disseminated it over the other parts of the town. The amphitheatre is not built above the surface, but inexcavated in the soil; the constructors availing themselves of a ravine, or hollow way, which runs across this neck of land,

building up the extremities, and scooping out the interior into the proper form, which was then lined with stone seats. Its length on the summit is three hundred and sixty-three feet, and might have been filled with water from the aqueduct whenever required. The cisterns, six in number, are close to it; they are each one hundred and thirty-six feet long, by nineteen feet seven inches in breadth, and above twenty in height; and all communicate with each other by little arches placed at about half their length.

Between the amphitheatre and the marabets is a second hollow way. Some distance beyond stood the citadel, defended by a ditch to the west, and rendered strong in other parts, especially at the eastern extremity, by the great steepness of its sides. Below the citadel are seen numerous remains of edifices, broken columns, &c. This low tongue of land, on which stood a great part of the town, was intersected in its breadth by a canal, which formed the ex-

tremity into an island, and appears to have been bordered by considerable buildings—probably docks where the galleys were laid up in ordinary, and magazines for the reception of military and naval stores. In the plain to the south are the ruins of a theatre, which, from numerous little pieces of rare marbles, appears to have been richly ornamented; the diameter of the *orchestra* measures sixty-six feet. Still more to the south, are the ruins of some other large buildings. To the north of the heights, as I before observed, was the harbour, where we see some considerable, though shapeless ruins, standing upon a little circular island joined to the main by either a bridge or causeway. This must have been the Cothon of Utica; not far from it is a semi-circular building like a theatre, but more probably the end of a basin, or perhaps a large public seat like those met with at Pompeii. Many excavations have been made at Utica, by Hammooda Pasha, and the present Bey, and I was told that several statues, in-

scriptions and columns have been discovered; what have become of the former I know not, but the columns have been employed in adorning several palaces.

From Utica, after a two hours' ride, passing along the shores of the lake on the left of the Majerdah, we reached Porto Farina, or, properly speaking, Ghar el Milah, غار الملح "the salt cave;" we did not arrive till long after sunset; the moon was shining brightly, and its beams sparkled on the tranquil waters, in which each little fleecy cloud was distinctly reflected, whilst numerous fish were playing and jumping about in all directions. As we approached the town, the road became bordered by dwarf palm trees, enclosing many gardens, from which rose the perfumes of the mimosa blossoms. We were lodged in the Kaeed's house, and very well treated. A violent gale sprung up suddenly during the night, and broke all our windows.

Ghar el Milah, the *Membro* or *Membrone* of the Itinerary, or rather the nearest modern

town to the site of the former one, (for its exact situation I should feel inclined to place about half a mile nearer to Utica, at a place called Beyja, where a few traces of walls are found,) is built on the northern bank of a lake which communicates by a boghaz with the sea, and into which, during the rainy season, flow the waters of the Majerdah, after breaking through the low strip of land which at other times separates them. The Majerdah appears always to have formed, near its mouth, similar shallow lakes; for Silius in speaking of it says,

Et stagnante vado patulos involvere campos.

These periodical invasions bring with them a vast quantity of mud, which soon settles, and every year the lake becomes in consequence gradually more shallow; and so great has been this accumulation, that for some years Ghar el Milah has been abandoned as a naval station, and it is probable that in a short time the plough will pass over the spot where formerly large frigates rode at anchor. This lake is at present six miles long and four broad.

Ghar el Milah is a small town, and almost deserted; it is defended by three considerable forts, besides the batteries on the moles, and possesses a dock-yard and arsenal. Behind the town rises boldly a chain of hills which continues to Cape Farina, a distance of six miles. It was formerly a very flourishing and well peopled town, but the general decadence of Moorish power, and the filling up of its port, have left it the miserable and deserted place we now see it, retaining only its natural beauties, which are indeed very great. Projecting into the lake, two piers formed a very good and safe *darsena*, in which, only twenty years since, large frigates lay in deep water, with their sterns touching the quays; but three years ago, the water had become so shallow, that a man-of-war, which had been lying there some years, could not by any efforts be moved, so deeply was she imbedded in the mud; she was consequently broken up, but her remains are still to be seen. At present only small *sandaals* can enter this port. About two dozen gun-boats

were rotting on the shore; two large slips for building were tenantless; and a man-of-war brig and schooner were sunk in the merchant harbour, the stumps of their masts just appearing above water. On the quays lay, totally neglected, many beautiful pieces of brass cannon, the tribute or the spoils of Christian powers; the forts had no garrisons, and their iron guns were mouldering into dust. The guard-rooms and arsenals were hung round with curious old arms, thickly covered with rust and cobwebs; the chain across the harbour mouth had not been lowered for years; no living creature was seen in the dock-yard, but one old grey-bearded man, who bore the empty title of Rais el Marsa, and two poor fishermen who were repairing their wretched boat. And is this then, I thought, the place, that, but a few short years ago, resounded with the noisy revelry and loud exultations of victorious and warlike men, returning home rich with the spoils of their Christian foes—these the moles, built by the labour of Christian slaves, along which

joyous multitudes rushed to welcome the return of their armies—these the docks which sent forth the beautiful cruizers destined to carry terror and desolation to the coasts of Italy and of Spain: and these the cafés where the rovers used to

> Tell o'er the tales of many a night of toil,
> And marvel where they next shall seize a spoil:
> No matter where—their chief's allotment this;
> Theirs, to believe no prey nor plan amiss.

On the whole the present appearance of Ghar el Milah excited in me that state of melancholy contemplation, which we experience whilst visiting the remains of Rome, of Memphis, of Troy, and of Carthage; and yet the feeling was not quite the same, for in the one instance, it was what would be produced on beholding the scarce cold clay of the human frame; in the other, what we should feel on looking upon a bleached skeleton.

Many of the families at Ghar el Milah are descendants from the Spanish Moors; and though none of them have retained any portion of the language of Spain, yet many

still possess the keys of their houses in Granada and other towns. The white wine made in the vicinity is excellent. From the heights above the town is a fine view of the whole bay of Tunis, the western extremity of which is Cape Farina, the ancient *Apollinis promontorium.* This cape, and the two to the west, called by the ancients *Pulchrum* and *Candidum,* have been most sadly confounded together by many writers—some saying that the two latter were one and the same, others placing the *Pulchrum* at Cape Farina, and the *Apollinis* at Cape Zibeeb. With regard to the latter, the mistake is the more extraordinary, as Strabo describes its situation so clearly, for in speaking of the two extremities of the bay of Carthage, he says, *ὧν τὸ μὲν πρὸς τῇ* Ιτύκῃ *καλοῦσιν* Απυλλώνιον, *θάτερον δ'*Ερμαίαν. The *Candidum* is, undoubtedly, the present Ras el Abeadh, preserving still the characteristic mark which gained its Latin name, and retaining exactly, in its Arabic one, the same meaning as that of *Candidum.*

With regard to the *Pulchrum*, as we know that it lay between the two others, it must necessarily have been the present Ras Sidi Boo-shusha, (Cape Zibeeb.) Cape Farina is also sometimes called in charts Capo di Guardia, the Moorish name is Ras Sidi Ali el Mekki; to the Romans it was known as the *Apollinis prom.*, and its aboriginal African name was *Ruscinona*. Two miles to the east of it, is the low island of El Wateeah الواطيه "the flat," or the Isola Piana, and Gamelora of the Franks. On it are found many *bovi marini*, or seals; to the west of the cape is the rocky islet of Pilau; and off Ras Sidi Boo-shusha, are the islands of El Kelab, or i Cani, the *Dracontia* of the ancients. Near this cape is the tunny fishery carried on by Sicilians.

We started for Benzart, passing over a country alternately covered with olive and with heath, and reached the prettily situated village of Aleah, built on the declivity of a hill, and facing the western plain. From an inscription formerly found there, we learn that it was the

ancient *Cotuza*. The only extant remains are those of some small cisterns, immediately outside the gate; I made diligent search for others, and Mahmood threatened to bastinade the Sheikh if he did not find some, but all in vain. Descending into the plain, we arrived at Menzel jemeel منزل جميل "the pretty station, or resting place," a name it fully deserves, standing on an elevation overlooking the lake of Benzart. Here probably stood *Thisica*, though Shaw says *Thinissa*; but according to Ptolemy this latter town or village must have been close to the sea, on or near the *Pulchrum prom.* As it was near sunset, I sent on Feraj at a gallop, to have the gates of Benzart kept open till I arrived, which was not till late, nor till after we had been thoroughly drenched by a heavy rain. We were quartered in the Kaeed's house, where, on entering, I was greatly surprised to see the rooms ornamented with pictures of the Virgin and Saints, which was, however, soon explained by the entrance of a Christian woman and some of her family, who held

different employments in the Kaeed's household; but the images being allowed to occupy these situations, spoke much in favour of the tolerant ideas of the Moslem chief. During supper, a servant brought me two dishes and two bottles of wine, as a present from his mistress, but who she was he would not disclose nor was I able by any means to discover the fair incognita.

CHAPTER VIII.

Benzart—Its moles—Lakes—Fish—Ancient sites near Benzart—Return to Utica—The Jebel Kasser Akoleit—Extinction of Christianity in Barbary—Arrival at Boo-Shater — Inhospitable reception — Excursion to Zaghwan—Ancient remains—Wretched roads—Ancient Temple and Gate—Zaghwan Dyers—Picturesque scenery—Return to Tunis—Aqueduct of Carthage.

BENZART, بنزرت, corrupted by the Franks into Bizerta, was the ancient *Hippo Zarytus:* it will be observed, that the second of these names is preserved in the latter part of the Arabic one. It is a fortified town, standing mostly on the western side of the canal, which connects the large lake of Bizerta with the sea, and partly on an island; on the eastern bank the walls enclose but a very few houses. Leo Africanus says, that Benzart "is but of a

small bignes." According to Solinus, Benzart was founded by a Grecian colony:—"Item Hipponem alterum de interfluente freto Diarrhyton nuncupatum, nobilissima oppida, equites Græci condiderunt."

This town, as well as the Hippo near Bona were both, according to Strabo, called "Royal:" Καὶ οἱ δύο Ἱππῶνες, ὁ μεν πλησίον Ἰτύκης, ὁ δὲ ἀποτέρῳ πρὸς τῇ Τριτῷ μᾶλλον, ἄμφω βασιλεια. This may account for the confusion which exists in many writers, who in some cases have mistaken the one town for the other, and have again in other instances imagined them to have been one and the same. Diodorus calls it *Hippoaccra*, and Appian, *Hippogreta*.

Benzart was formerly a great naval station; and it was to this place that Khair-ed-deen retired, after he had been defeated by Charles the Fifth, under the walls of Tunis; and whence, after weighing up some gallies which had been sunk in the lake, he escaped from the pursuit of his enemies to Algiers. It also appears that the gallies built here, were renowned for their

good qualities; Lithgow mentions that it possessed "gallies, the most scelerate of condition, and celerious in flying or following, of all the cursares in Turky." The town contains no remarkable buildings, nor did I, with the exception of a few broken columns and capitals, see any vestiges of antiquity. Two moles, or piers, form the entrance into the canal, and on the western one is the Kazbah: the substructures of these moles are probably of a very remote date. About a mile along the shore, to the west, is another fort, standing on a little eminence projecting into the sea. The waters flow alternately from and into the lake. When I saw them they were transparently clear, and running into it at the rate of a mile an hour. From the heights above the western angle of the town walls, is a beautiful view, embracing the town and canal, the sea, with the El Kelab rocks and Ras Sidi Boo-shusha, the olive-covered plains, the smiling lake with its far projecting and wooded promontories, several chains of the picturesque hills of Frigeah,

above which rises the peaked summit of the lofty and insulated Jebel Ishkel, and the heights which run down to Ras el Abeadh. The scenery about the lake reminded me much of the views of our Cumberland ones; though the latter, I should imagine, must be satisfied to hold the second rank. The lakes of Benzart, in their extreme length, namely, from the town to the southern shore of the upper or lesser one, extend from north-east to south-west twenty-eight m[illegible], and the greatest breadth is fourteen. The depth of the larger or northern one is very considerable, varying from ten to sixty fathom water. The channel, which in the town is little more than one fathom, increases in depth above it, to six and ten. All these waters abound with fish; especially the Jerafah, *Aurita*, and the grey mullet, which here grows to a very large size, and with whose roe is made the famous botarga of Benzart, which is much more delicate and of a finer flavour than any other. The principal fishery is carried on at a place called Mazooka, and long

strings of horses and mules, laden with the produce, start every evening for Tunis. Off the sea-coast, the red mullet, or fish of Sultan Ibrahim, is caught in great quantities. Benzart is also renowned for its peaches.

On the shores of the lake, or not far from them, formerly stood many ancient towns, a few remains of which are still seen. *Canopisi*, *Maldita*, *Materens*, now Matter, *Theudalis*, and *Thisica*, were some of them. Jebel Ishkel was formerly known as the *Cirna mons*—a name which I believe also extended to the neighbouring chain of hills. The large or northern lake was called by the ancients *Hipponitis lacus*, and the smaller one, *Sisaræ palus*. I was so much pleased with those sheets of water, and with the surrounding country, that I thought it would be a delightful spot during the spring, if provided with a little yacht, (which can be hired at Tunis,) and with tents, in which to spend a fortnight—sailing about, drawing, fishing and shooting by day, and pitching our tents in some pretty spot about evening.

We rode back to Utica again passing through Menzel Jemeel; then bearing off a little to the right, we crossed the hills called Jebel Kasser Akoleit, "the jar-breaking hill," —a name it richly deserves, for not only is it qualified by its rugged surface to destroy pottery, but also the knees of the horses who traverse it. This pass was once much dreaded by travellers, from the number of lawless characters who haunted it; and the numerous little stone heaps covering the bodies of their murdered victims fully attest that their fears were but too well grounded. At the foot of these hills, and on the edge of the marshy plain of Utica, is the ruin of what appears to have been a church, based upon the remains of a still more ancient building; and close to it is the marabet of Sidi Ahmed boo-faras. The number of churches which formerly existed in Barbary is almost incredible; in the Notitia Episcopatuum Ecclesiæ Africanæ, we find the names of no less than a hundred and thirty-two episcopal sees, in the proconsular province alone. Never,

however, was a religion and its symbol so completely eradicated from any country as that of the Cross from Barbary. Egypt, in its Coptic population, and Turkey, in its Armenian and Greek subjects, still preserve remnants of it, but Barbary none.

Arrived at Boo-Shater, we were refused admittance into the hovel where we made our application; the owner exempting himself from lodging travellers, on the plea that he was the steward of Sidi Mustafa's son, who possesses a great part of the land about here. A most furious altercation then arose, during which Mahmood so terrified the man by the threats of reporting his conduct at the Bardo, that, in despair, he frantically rushed towards me, seized my horse's mane and the bridle, and claimed my protection, imagining me to be a consul—whose person, horse, or carriage, if once touched by a criminal, though one of the Bey's own subjects, at once ensures his safety, provided the consul does not drive him away. My horse, disliking this rough handling, plunged vio-

lently, but the man would not quit his hold, and the bit actually broke in two, and I only got rid of my friend by placing a pistol at his head, and threatening to blow out his brains. About fifty Arabs had by this time collected; and as we all were swearing, and roaring at the top of our voices, the noise, added to the shrill shrieks of the women, and angry and savage barking of numberless dogs, may easily be conceived, whilst the group would have formed an animated little picture—for the night was dark, and the glare of the watch-fires flashed at intervals upon the fierce features and fiercer eyes of the Arabs, who were with wild gestures moving about, to escape from the kicks and plunges of our horses, whilst our polished arms shot back the bright reflection of the flames. For my part, I wished to sleep in the cisterns, where I thought we should be less incommoded by vermin; but my Moors would not hear of it, saying they were full of ghosts and *afreets*. At last we found another hovel, which we entered,

after it had been evacuated by two men, three women, three children, and two cows. This cabin, (for I had the curiosity to measure it,) was only fourteen feet by six, and five feet in height: and so full of fleas, that sleep was out of the question; so we sat round the fire, listening to the Arab's stories. About two hours before sun-rise we were again on horseback, but the cold was so intense that we were soon compelled to dismount, and walk, till the sun began to make his influence a little felt. On the 8th, an hour before mid-day, we entered the gates of Tunis.

On the 20th of November, I made, together with the rest of the party, a little excursion to Zaghwan, زغوان. Sir Thomas Reade lent us one of his carriages, a *coupé à deux places*, placed on two wheels; for, as I have before observed, no one but his highness is allowed to drive with four. We left the town by the Bab Aleeah, passing between the heights of Be 'l Hassan and the Manoobeah, crossing the plain on the left of the Sibhah es-Sejoumi, to

the range of hills where stands the Mahmoodeah, one of the Bey's palaces, now converted into a barrack for the Nizam jedeed. In two hours from Tunis and half an hour from the Mahmoodeah we reached the banks of the Mileean, (the *Catada fluvius* of ancient geographers,) whose banks are high and precipitous, and where the remains of a bridge are seen; but so slight are they, that it is impossible to ascertain whether it was Roman or Moorish. This stream flows into the bay of Tunis, between the village of Rhades and Hammam 'l Enf. We were much delayed by getting the carriage up and down these steep banks. We continued our course on the opposite side, along a level turfy plain, leaving on our right the magnificent aqueduct of Carthage.

This plain, with these colossal ruins stretching across it, reminded me strongly of the Campagna of Rome. In three quarters of an hour we arrived at Udina, built partly in the plain and partly on a projecting spur of the neighbouring chain of heights. Neither Shaw nor

D'Anville take any notice of these ruins; but Ptolemy mentions *Uthina*, Οὐθινα, as situated in 34° 15′ and 31° 20′; and in the Not. Epis. Eccl. Afr. we find two places in the Provincia Proconsularis, the one called *Utinensis*, and the other *Utinisensis*, one of which doubtless referred to this town; in the Tabula Itineraria Peutingeriana also, is marked a place called *Uthica*, twenty miles from Tunis. *Uthina* judging from its remains, must have been both a large and a flourishing town; and we still see the ruins of its acropolis, built on an elevated rock, and containing large vaults which were used as cisterns and magazines. Two other large cisterns supported by square pillars, like those of *Hippona*, and still retaining in many parts their coating of strong cement, the ruins of a large palace, some smaller cisterns, vestiges of two temples, an aqueduct, a theatre, and remains of other edifices, besides a bridge to the south, formed of three arches, still quite perfect, may also be seen. Most of these buildings are constructed of large wrought stones. The citadel

occupies a very commanding situation; and from it, the village of Sidi Boo-saeed bears north-east, and the Jebel er-roossas, east-south-east. I could not discover any inscriptions whatever, and but few fragments of marble.

Uthina is now totally uninhabited, except when a few Arabs occasionally pitch their tents on its site. Leaving this place, we soon commenced ascending the mountains, passing by an aqueduct excavated in the ground, and the foundations of several buildings; but soon the road became so bad, that the ladies were often obliged to get out and walk; and finally, as the shades of evening were deepening, and having been twice overturned, they abandoned the carriage entirely, and walked the remaining seven miles to Zaghwan, where we did not arrive till seven o'clock. The road had been quite cut up by deep water-courses formed by the late heavy rains, and I know not how the people managed to convey the carriages, though empty, over them. One of these ravines was twelve feet deep, and the same in breadth. On one occasion I was rather amused,

by a specimen of what is called the *lingua franca;* for on asking the driver why he was battling with his mules, he answered, "Ia Sidi, Baghellah voler fare troppo mucho goddam." Which being rendered into the English tongue, means,—"Oh sir, the mule wants to get on too fast." The latter word of his sentence, be it observed, is not the well-known English one, but is purely Arabic, and means "forwards."

In crossing the mountains, we saw a great quantity of partridges close to the road-side. I counted no less than twelve coveys, averaging five brace each. We also met several wolves, who passed within a few yards, and heard a great many others in all directions howling around us. At Zaghwan we took up our abode at a Jew's house, and the sheikh called upon us—for the Kaeed was absent—and sent us provisions for ourselves and horses.

On the following day we went to visit the Kazbah, as the ancient temple over the fountain which supplied Carthage with water by means of the aqueduct, is called: it stands at the base of the rocky part of the Jebel Zaghwan, but con-

siderably elevated above the plain, and about two miles from the town. The form of this temple is that of a horse-shoe, one hundred and eighteen feet in length and the same in breadth, with a *cella* at the point fronting the north, and eighteen feet six inches by fifteen, and twenty-four in height, to the summit of its vaulted roof; the rest of the temple is open, but was once surrounded interiorly by a covered gallery fifteen feet wide, supported by twenty-six columns fourteen feet high: these have been carried away, but we were enabled to ascertain their height by that of corresponding pilasters attached to the walls. In every alternate interpilaster is a niche, where, we may suppose, were formerly placed different nymphs and Naiads; whilst a large niche in the *cella* contained the image of one of the gods of an higher class, who presided over fountains and springs, which, we are told, were Diana, Hercules, and Minerva. The walls are three feet five inches in thickness, and seem to have been protected from damp by an outer one, which rose only to the

level of the ground's surface. Two flights of steps ascending from the north led to the two extremities of the covered gallery, and from the area of the temple three steps conducted to the *cella*; two little side-doors also gave admittance to the area. Between the two flights of steps, is the basin in which the spring bubbles up its clear water. This basin nearly resembles in shape the figure 8, and is surrounded with steps to enable the people to descend and fill their pitchers: it measures twenty-eight feet eight inches by fifteen feet seven inches. Close to this temple is a very prettily laid out garden belonging to a Marokeen.

Another monument of antiquity is the gate on the north-east side of the town. On the key-stone of the arch is carved in relief a ram's head, surmounted by a crown of oak-leaves surrounding the word AVXILIO; and above this again is a figure resembling the letter A. Shaw seems to think, from this, that the town was under the protection of the Ammonian Jove: it may also have been a sanctuary, or place of

refuge, as Sidi Boo-saeed is at present. Zaghwan is perhaps the ancient *Tuburbo major*, at present it is said to contain twelve thousand inhabitants, a considerable portion of whom are employed in dying the shasheahs, or red caps of Tunis; for its waters possess the peculiar property of imparting to the colour additional brilliancy, and of preserving it longer from fading; and it is in part owing to this circumstance that these caps have so great a reputation, and that it has always been found impossible to imitate them. Previous to their being dyed, they are boiled for a whole day in alum and water. The dye employed is the kermez, قرمز, obtained at Beyjah; to which, for the finer ones, is added a portion of cochineal. It is, however, astonishing that no attempts have as yet been made to introduce this insect into the regency, where the opuntia or prickly pear flourishes so luxuriantly—and perhaps in no part more so than near Zaghwan, where I have seen plants eighteen feet high, with trunks measuring three feet three inches in

circumference. There is a variety of this plant, whose leaves and fruit are quite free from thorns, and the latter has a pleasanter flavour. On the whole it is a most useful plant, the common people subsisting for four months entirely on its fruit, which grows in such abundance, that I have counted no less than thirty-four figs on one single leaf. The leaves are given as food to the camels, who, regardless of the thorns, seem to relish them extremely. When the plant is dead and dry, the stem and lower branches, which have obtained the consistency of wood, are used for heating ovens and the stoves of baths: they also constitute the sole material for the hedges of the country, being easily planted, requiring no care, and forming in a short time impenetrable barriers. Could it be still further utilized by making it support the precious cochineal, it would indeed be an invaluable plant.

The Kaeed Sidi Salem el Mai called upon us, and invited us to breakfast the next day. We accordingly repaired to his house, where we were served with the usual variety of Moorish sweet-

meats, preserves, cakes, and sherbets. His wife, a very fine dark-eyed woman, splendidly dressed, was also present, and moreover without her veil; for the Kaeed observed, that as I had shown him my wives with their faces uncovered, it was but a proper return on his part that I should see his own in the same state; the only precaution taken was, to send Mahmood and two other Moors out of the rooms, but an Arab saint and some Jews were allowed to remain. The lady, in the true ancient Roman manner, anointed her guests with pomatums, or oils, and scattered over them, from beautiful bottles made for that purpose, a variety of rich and delicious perfumes, of which the best seemed to be the amber mixed with *neseri* or white rose.

We strolled about the lovely environs of Zaghwan, which are eminently picturesque, combining the bold with the softer features of nature. The town itself is delightfully situated some little way up the acclivity, and is surrounded on all sides with beautiful gardens,

filled with the most luxuriant fruit trees and vegetation. Numerous little clear rills, rushing down the mountain sides, unite and flow through fragments of rocks at the bottom of a deep ravine, putting in activity, during their course, a variety of mills; pretty white marabets at times show their glittering little domes through masses of dark green foliage. On one side is seen a rich plain, stretching far away in the distance, to the base of the blue mountains of the Ussalas, and, in another direction, bounded by ranges of nearer and wood-covered hills; whilst immediately behind the town, and towering high over the whole scene, rise the bold and perpendicular masses of the Jebel ez Zaghwan.

One day, mounted on mules, we started for the purpose of ascending to the summit of this mountain, the *Zeugitanus mons* of antiquity: we rode along its base, leaving the temple to our left, till we reached the opposite extremity to the one where the town is built, when we commenced ascending; and, after two hours, reached a *plateau,* on which are situated the

marabet of Sidi Boo-Ghări, a large farm, the fountain of S. Ben el Hassan, and a large snow well, made for the Bey—but which, as it has no drain, and is otherwise ill-constructed, has been found almost useless. Here we left our mules, and commenced ascending the loftiest peak, which we found a most laborious and scrambling undertaking; but, reaching the summit, we were amply repaid for our fatigue by the magnificent view which presented itself, embracing a considerable portion of the Beylek. We could plâinly discern Halek el Wad, the Bay, Sidi Boo-saeed, the hills above Ghar el Milah, the town and lakes of Tunis, the Bardo, the mountains of Frigeah, and a variety of ranges of other hills, the snow-topped mountain of El Kaf, the Jebel Ussalas, and the mountain of Zhuggar; the sea, with Lampedosa appearing faintly on the horizon, Hammamet, the plains of Herghla, Susa, Klibia, the Jebel er-Roossas, and the mountain of Boo-kurneen; whilst close beneath our feet rose the grey and rugged peaks of the moun-

tain itself, and above our heads, circled in their calm and dignified flight, many superb eagles.

On the 25th, we started on our return to Tunis, and had not advanced above a mile, when the rain came down in absolute torrents, and covered the plain with water to the depth of half an inch; and when we reached the hills, we found the road so perfectly impassable for a carriage, that the idea of making any further use of it was immediately abandoned; the ladies were obliged to get out and mount, the one a mule pressed into our service from a man we fortunately met, and the other the *sembeel*, or baggage-horse, and, covered with bernooses and my cavalry cloak, they rode in this manner the whole way to Tunis, a distance of forty-six miles, during which time it rained most violently; a strong, cold, piercing wind tended to render the ride yet more uncomfortable, and the horses at every instant sank knee deep in the mud. We, however, whiled away the time merrily, laughing at each other's cu-

rious costumes and appointments, and cold-pinched features, and pushed on as fast as the horses could go through the heavy ground, from the fear of finding the Mileean so swollen as to be impassable.

Having arrived at its bank, we found that the waters had in fact risen considerably, and were rushing forward with alarming velocity. I therefore went in first *pour éclairer le chemin*, and finding it fordable, we all crossed over, and dined on the opposite bank—still however exposed to the raging storm—for the country afforded not the smallest shelter.

The Moors never drink wine or spirits during Rejeb and Shaban, the two months which precede Ramadhan, (though they observe no fast in eating,) and so strictly do they adhere to this rule, that even Mahmood, who is very far from being a rigid observer of the Koran, as regards wine, and was of course then suffering from wet and cold, firmly refused drinking some which I offered him, saying with a sigh, that Sidi Rejeb had arrived the day before.

In a most miserable plight, we at last entered the gates of Tunis; but saw nothing of the carriage till late on the following day, notwithstanding all the united efforts of nine men and three mules, who were employed to drag it along. For some time they despaired of ever being able to get it across the Mileean, and up the opposite steep bank. In fine dry weather, however, this excursion can be made very comfortably in a carriage, for Sir Thomas Reade some years ago went to Zaghwan in a large four-wheeled coach, which the Bey had lent him, and the party who occupied it were not compelled to get out once, not even in crossing the stream.

The great aqueduct we have before alluded to, conveyed the waters of Zaghwan and of Zhuggar along a course of fifty-two miles in length, to the great cisterns at Carthage, and is a most stupendous construction, in some parts spanning valleys of several miles in breadth, and in others perforating mountains and rocks. The best preserved portions are to be seen near

the source of the Mileean, in the large plain which extends from the hills of the Muhammedeah to *Uthina;* and again about four miles beyond the Manooba, where, running from SS.W. to NN.E. till it strikes the chain of heights, it continues along them as far as the village of Arriana, when it again emerges into the open plain. It is known to the Arabs by the name of Hanayah Turgoosh, (خنايه طرغوش,) and was originally built by the Carthaginians; but having been in many parts destroyed during the repeated invasions of the country by foreign hordes, it was at different periods and by different nations rebuilt and repaired; this will account for the variety in the styles of architecture which are frequently visible in its ruins. The most ancient, and consequently the Punic portion of the fabric, is of stone, cut in embossments, and having stone arches; on several of which the letters or numbers, made by the workmen to define the places they were to occupy, may still be seen. Some of the arches which had been destroyed, appear to have been restored with stone slabs or large

bricks. Other parts of the aqueduct are constructed entirely of mud; whilst the line which extends from the marabet of Sidi Jebaleh, above Arriana, to Carthage, is composed of that mixture of mortar and small stone, which constituted, as I have before observed, the component material of the edifices of the capital; but it would appear from the single pillar existing in the village of Arriana, that it was also originally faced with stones, which have since been all removed by the Moors. The measurements and proportions of these different parts vary as much as the style and the materials themselves; for whilst the Punic pillars or supports, measure along the line of the aqueduct eight feet six inches by ten feet one inch in breadth, with an open interval between them of fourteen feet one inch, those constructed of mud are fourteen feet seven inches along the line, by twelve feet two inches in breadth, and the intervals fifteen feet ten inches, and some few of these arches are even as much as twenty feet. The height of the aqueduct varies of course according to the

level of the plain; in some places it rises as much as ninety-eight feet above it, but the general height is about sixty-six. The water-course, which is arched above, and grooved below, is five feet high, and three feet one inch broad, and is lined throughout with a very hard cement. The mud portion of this great work is composed of several layers, three feet and a half in height, joined to each other by a cement, and appears to have been constructed by filling frames in the manner still adopted in the Regency, and described in the account of the barracks erecting at Tunis. Between these different layers are seen beams of wood still in perfect preservation, which are either remains of the scaffolding, or were inserted to give additional strength to the structure. Procopius mentions that Gelimer, previous to the battle of Tricamaron, (fought between his Vandals and Belisarius,) ordered this aqueduct to be destroyed—but in what part he does not mention—probably near Arriana, where great pains have evidently been taken to render it a

complete ruin; it may however be objected that it was too near Carthage to have allowed the Imperial troops calmly to have witnessed its destruction, without making some effort to prevent it; and moreover, the state of the ruins in this part would almost induce one to suppose that the agency of gunpowder had been used, and consequently that the demolition took place at a later period.

How full of deep interest and historical souvenirs are the environs of Tunis! There is not a plain, a mountain, a river, a bay, or a headland, which is not connected with the deeds of once powerful and gallant nations—nations that have long since vanished into the mellowed distance of the past; or with heroes immortalized by the splendour of a renown, that has brightly illumined the scenes of their high achievements. Africans, Phœnicians, Grecians, Romans, and Numidians—the Goth, the Vandal, the Arab, the Spaniard, and the Turk—have all in turn here held their sway in the full pride of power. What a long array of bright names

present themselves in rapid succession before our mind's eye, as entranced we gaze on the scene around us; for was it not once animated with the presence of Dido, of Annibal, Amilcar, and Asdrubal; of Hanno, and Mago; of Agathocles, Regulus, Syphax and Jugurtha; of Scipio, Julius, and Belisarius; and, in later days, of Charles and of St. Louis? In short, are we not standing on the ruins of Carthage! and does not that one word itself embrace the history of ages, and explain the feelings and thoughts of the contemplative traveller?

END OF VOL. I.

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